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By Helen G. Sommer

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By Louise E. Thompson

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By Samuel L. Friedman

How a High School Trains for Leisure

By E. De Alton Partridge, Ph.D.

Music's Good Neighborliness in the Americas

By Augustus D. Zanzig

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RECREATION

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Table of Contents

	PAGE
Music's Good Neighborliness in the Americas, by Augustus D. Zanzig	3
Playlots at \$50 Each, by C. H. English	11
A Children's May Carnival, by Louise E. Thompson	14
Attractive, Functional, and Economical—The Playground Building, by F. Ellwood Allen	16
Adventuring in Folkways, by Helen G. Sommer	18
Ninety Minutes a Week? by R. G. Breeden	20
Playing for a Stronger America, by Samuel L. Friedman	21
How One High School Trains for Leisure, by E. DeAlton Partridge, Ph.D. . . .	24
A Literature "Shower" for Service Men, by Charles H. English	27
What They Say About Recreation	28
Ensuring Safety in the Use of Playground Facilities, by H. D. Corbin	29
Of "Singing America"	32
The Midwest College Outing Conference, by Garrett G. Eppley	33
Art and the People	35
Miniature Trailside Museums, by David Damon	37
Radio and the Farm Home, by John Bradford	39
It's Being Done in Nature Recreation, by Cap'n Bill	41
Building the Morale of Our Armed Forces, by Charles P. Taft	43
A Fortieth Anniversary Program	44
How Does Your Garden Grow? by John Campbell	45
Nature Afield	46
World at Play	47
Joseph Lee Memorial Contest for Recreation Literature	52
A School Becomes a Recreation Center	54
A Legacy from the World's Fair!	56
Another Fair Is Coming	57
What One Girl Likes	58
Saving the Boys' Club	59
New Publications in the Leisure Time Field	63

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R.R.

Recreation and Art

SLOWLY AND GRADUALLY a people's art movement has grown up in the United States during the last thirty-four years. Some twelve hundred cities and towns under their own steam, in their own way, are trying through their own recreation systems to work out better ways of living. They begin with thought of their children and their young people. They do not stop there.

Children in these cities spend part of their time in learning to work but mainly the thought is in terms of the arts of living—sports, athletics, music, crafts, nature study, reading. What gives pleasure, what gives growth, what is permanently satisfying? What builds up a good way of life?

Growth—progress are essential to satisfaction. Strength and beauty are essential to durable satisfactions. The play and recreation movement is an art movement, helps to build the democratic art movement.

The cities and towns begin with young people but they do not end there. If the youngsters are to live, are at least to be exposed to all the arts of life, then surely as they enter industry and the professions they are to be encouraged to keep right on living in all their free time.

Art in all its forms is becoming a part of the life of the people. Art is not something to be confined to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Museum of Modern Art, the National Art Gallery—it is something to be carried on right in the homes, the churches, the lodges, in connection with all the daily life of the people.

In the recreation centers there are changing traveling art exhibits. But this plays a minor part in education as to beauty in living. Girls learn about design and proportion in fashioning their own hats and dresses. Boys help in making scenery for the plays. All the craft projects help in bringing a greater understanding of beauty. Boys and girls are not ashamed to try themselves out in painting and drawing, in trying to express what ideas they have within themselves, and at least they learn a measure of appreciation for the work of others. All this is done without any compulsion other than inner. No marks are given.

The youngsters come to the recreation center for music lessons, to sing in the glee club, in the choral society, to play in the orchestra. Here too an "art culture" is being built, though of course no one uses such words.

Appreciation of the beauty of nature plays a large part in nature activities. It is just as important that a youngster enjoy a real sunset over the lake as that he be able to appreciate a painting of such a scene. Watching flowers grow, learning how to arrange them so as to get the maximum of pleasure—all that goes into gardening has a real part in the building of a richness and thickness and a strength and a joy of living which makes up culture and civilization.

Those who work in the recreation systems in our cities have reason to interpret all that they are doing to those who are responsible for all our art galleries and museums and art schools and to all who care deeply for the art of living.

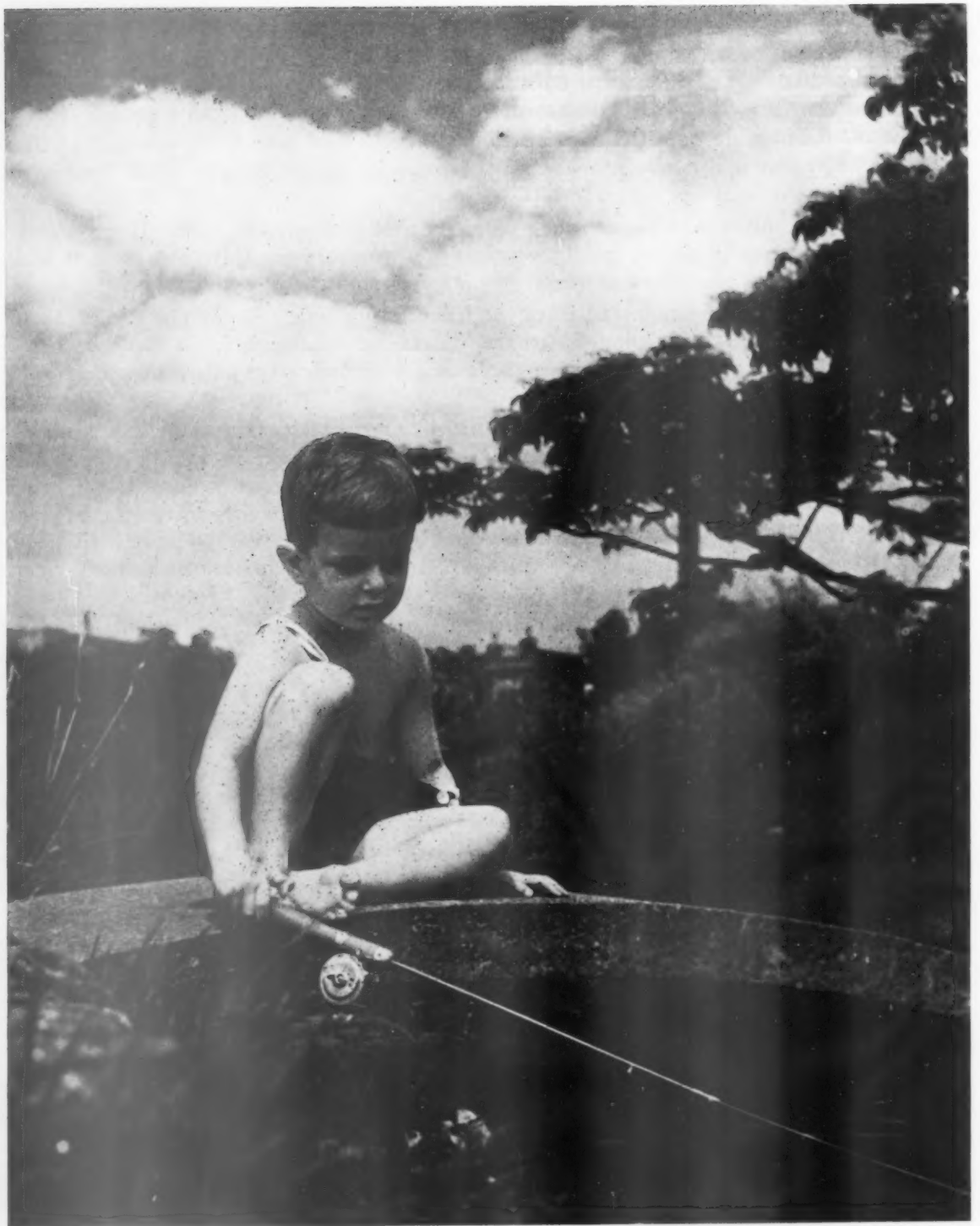
Art will, of course, never be strong in the United States except as participation in art, understanding of art, appreciation of art, belief in art is important on the part of all our people.

All that is good in the art and the civilization of many, many countries should be given a chance to flower and expand in the lives of the common people of the United States, and here the municipal recreation centers have a large part to play.

Whenever a great new national museum of art is given by an individual like Andrew W. Mellon all in the national recreation movement should rejoice at what has been done to further beauty in living.

Howard Brancher

April



Courtesy Department of Parks, New York City

Music's Good Neighborliness in the Americas

By AUGUSTUS D. ZANZIG
National Recreation Association

own America, and he it was who brought about the first conference (in 1826 at Pan-

THE COOPERATIVE PEACE, as it has been called, that has been developing among the twenty-one American republics is of great importance to all of us. Not only is it essential to hemisphere defense and even to defense of ourselves, but if, despite difficulties, its great promise continues toward fulfillment until the war is ended, it may prove to be a pattern for making rehabilitation and real peace possible in other great areas of the world. It is as great and inspiring a social experiment as ever enlisted the interest and service of man or woman, and its essentials are simple enough for a child to understand and, in simple ways, to act upon. For its success depends not so much on politic deals or pacts between governments as on what we all do as individuals toward developing better relationships among ourselves here at home, as tokens of our real character and intent, and between ourselves and the people of the other countries.

Inter-government pacts that are arranged merely for nationally self-seeking or self-protective purposes become scraps of paper at a change of economic or political wind. To a State whose power of government is superimposed on its people, and whose supreme concern is for its own material success and glory in the world, such pacts may be the normal and logical instruments of foreign policy. But all the nations of the New World were long ago dedicated to a way of life in which the power and actions of government are subject to the opinions of the people, and its supreme concern is for the development of conditions under which each person may make his own life a success. Relationships between the American nations must therefore be of their peoples, not merely of their governments. Simón Bolívar, the great hero of the other Americas, was as ardent a champion of such a way of life and of such relationships between nations as any hero of our

ama) of representatives of the independent nations of the New World to discuss the development by them of a free federation for mutual understandings and peace, the first Pan-American Conference. He believed that in time such a Congress of Nations might develop until it became a practicable and universally desired form of world organization. We of the Americas have a great cause: a hemisphere of true and lasting international friendliness to develop, whose frontiers commence in our own communities.

A New Federal Office for Inter-American Relations

There have been great difficulties in the way of Bolívar's ideals for the hemisphere, including economic ones as acute as any that have in other parts of the world led to war, and there are still very difficult adjustments to be made that urgently need sympathetic understanding and friendliness between the Latin-American peoples and ourselves. To help fulfill this need, our federal government has established an Office for Coordination of Commercial and Cultural Relations Between the American Republics. Its work has to do with all aspects of commerce and finance, but coordinate with these in its efforts are the radio, news, movies, travel, sports, education, literature, publications and art and music.

Of these cultural and communicational interests,

Mr. Nelson A. Rockefeller, the chief of the Office, says in the *Survey Graphic* for March, 1941, that "this part of the Office's program is based upon these realistic propositions: (1) That no amount of national defense effort or expenditure in the commercial and military areas can be fully effective unless there is a parallel program directed toward fostering active and enduring

In this article will be found suggestions for singing, dancing and other activities, and materials for them, through which we may all find much enjoyment and come closer in spirit to the people of the other Americas. Seen, as they are here, in connection with national measures being taken for defense not only of a hemisphere but of a greatly promising experiment in international relations, such activities have an importance that must recommend them strongly to recreation leaders and educators in every community. They come at a time made even more appropriate by plans for making this year's Music Week, May 4th to 10th, an Inter-American one. These plans are further described in this article.

friendship between the people of this country and the peoples of the other American republics; and (2) That this long range defense asset can best be created and maintained by a program which is directly related to the concrete media and channels through which the daily lives of all peoples are conducted and expressed."

"It must be emphasized," he continues, "*that effective action in this area . . . requires an immediate awakening throughout this country of what is at stake if we fail to develop closer cultural and spiritual ties . . . between ourselves and the twenty republics to the south of us.*" In this article we want to review briefly some of the things that have recently been done in this regard through music and to suggest related activities and materials close to the interests and opportunities of readers of this magazine.

A Washington Conference and Its Revelations

In October, 1939, an invitation from the Secretary of State, Mr. Hull, brought to Washington from all parts of the country about a hundred outstanding leaders in music, music education and recreation, music libraries and publications, radio broadcasting and phonograph recording, to discuss inter-American relations in the field of music. This very animated two-day conference, devoted to enriching and strengthening friendly relations between the Central and South American countries and the United States, dealt with ways and means of bringing about interchanges between their peoples and our own in music of various kinds and in knowledge about it in musical artists and artist groups, in professors and students, and in information as to the various kinds of musical activities in each country. An especially promising thing about this conference was that, though almost everyone present was a United States citizen, there being only four or five Latin-Americans there, practically all the time and effort of it was devoted to questions as to how the people of the United States are to have adequate opportunity to become familiar with the music of the Central and South American countries.

Another promising thing about the conference was the emphasis placed on the importance of folk and popular music in this whole project. A good deal was said about interchanges in the field of fine art music, and there is no doubt that these, in addition to the high intrinsic value that they have and their influence among the growing num-

ber of lovers of such music, give many other people also feelings of pride and pleasure when they know that the music of one of their best composers is performed by a distinguished orchestra, chorus or other fine group in another country. But the folk and popular music it is that can sing and play its way into the hearts and minds of all the people in all the countries and also into their own voices and feet (in dancing) and whistling. We should never cease effort to help clear the way for enjoyment of fine art music by more and more people, but as one speaker said, we should "live true to our democratic principles and encourage primarily the communication of that which is common between the common men of all countries." Furthermore, "music exists primarily in the making of it. It is in the music that the common man can make that will be found the main benefit which international relations can derive through music."

A revelation to most of us at the conference was of the very large variety in the Latin-Americans' dance music, to say nothing about their other kinds of music. We all know something of the tango, rhumba and conga, but Mr. Evans Clark of New York, a layman who has made a hobby of collecting phonograph records of that music, almost all of it recorded in its native countries, has discovered over sixty other distinct dance-forms, distinctly named, in those records and in the countries themselves which he has visited. And he has learned that each country has some distinctive music of its own. Further studies have since revealed to some of us a wonderfully large variety in other kinds of Latin-American folk music: not only in dance and love songs, but also in songs of work, of nature and homeland, Christmas and reverent wonder, country humor and the love of children; songs sung in fields, boats, in the solitude of the vast prairies and high plateaus and in the spontaneously festive society of village streets and patios, in church holiday processions and in homes. A fascinating and rewarding field to explore, contributed to by native Indian and African peoples as well as Spanish and Portuguese, and by minglings of them.

There was at the conference some talk also of the folk music of the United States that might interest Latin-Americans and help them to know us better: the songs of the pioneers, railroad-workers, cowboys, seamen, farmers, cotton-pickers and other workers, of mothers, lovers, ballad-makers and minstrels, the music of the old American hymn books, religious folk ballads and white

spirituals as well as Negro ones, and the music of square dances and other country dances. There could well have been added to this list the folk songs of people from all over the world who have become Americans. For this persistent and peaceable mingling and growing integration here of peoples of all the nations is itself a distinctively American trait, an American folkway—if many more of us will accept it as such—that may turn out to be the greatest social experiment of all, close to the hopes of Simón Bolívar as well as of our own prophets.

The conference was faced also by the difficulties of interchanges in the various fields of music: of differences in language, instrumentation and style of performance, and of copyright and labor union restrictions. Certain of its outcomes, however, are very promising.

Some Outcomes of the Washington Conference

At the close of the conference a Committee on Inter-American Relations in the Field of Music was formed to be associated with the State Department's Division of Cultural Relations. Its main accomplishments, besides intensifying the interest of many music leaders in all parts of the country, have been:

1. The appointment of ten subcommittees, each to undertake a study and a report to the parent committee of the possibilities and ways and means of bringing about helpful interchanges in a distinct field of music. One of these was assigned to

the field of Community and Recreational Music. The reports of all these committees, brief memoranda as to relations with respect to copyright and to musical motion pictures, and a revealing article on Brazilian popular music, were published together in a Report of the Committee of the Conference on Inter-American Relations in the Field of Music issued by the State Department's Division of Cultural Relations on September 3, 1940.

2. The planning and establishment of an Inter-American Music Center housed at the Pan-American Union in Washington. The main functions of

this Music Center are to be the gathering of a reference library of music, recordings, books and journals, and a collection of native instruments; and the further diffusion of information as to these things through bulletins, lists and correspondence. Its scholarly and musically gifted director, Mr. Charles Seeger, is keenly interested in folk music, in folk singing and dancing, and in everyday, recreational uses of music. It was from his conference address that we quoted above. The service of this Center is bound to include all that the growing available resources will allow of help to recreation and education leaders seeking Latin-American songs, folk dances, recordings, motion pictures, and information as to folk customs and festivals.

3. The sending of Dr. Carleton Sprague Smith, head of the New York Public Library's Music Division, on a four months' tour by air of fourteen South American centers of musical

Indians from the town of Todos Santos in the Cuchumatanes Mountains, Guatemala



Courtesy Pan American-Grace Airways, Inc.

interest to renew or establish contacts with South American leaders in music, to gather information as to all phases of the Committee's interests, and to provide introduction for South Americans to our folk and popular music and fine art music and to musical conditions and activities in our communities.

4. The making of a collection of articles on music in the United States, to be published in Spanish as Volume V of the *Boletín Latino-Americano de Musica* issued annually by El Instituto Interamericano de Musica in Montevideo, Uruguay, and having a wide circulation in South America. Fifty-two articles were written on as many phases of music in the United States, each by a United States person regarded as an authority therein. One of these articles is on Music in Recreation and was prepared by the National Recreation Association's director of music.

All this done, the Committee, as it was, retired from office in October, 1940, but its main purposes are being carried on by the music committee of the aforementioned Federal Office for Coordination of Commercial and Cultural Relations Between the American Republics. Several of the members of this present committee were members of the other one.

Other Recent Achievements

Largely because of interest intensified by the Washington conference, the National Recreation Association, which had for many years given special effort to furthering a knowledge and use of folk songs and had issued three booklets of such songs, undertook in February, 1940, the making of a large collection to represent all the Americas, including Canada. This collection of 120 songs and choruses was entitled *Singing America*, was published in a vocal edition in October, 1940, and in an edition with piano accompaniments in March, 1941, by C. C. Birchard and Company of Boston. It contains fourteen folk songs of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru and Puerto Rico, and four of Canada, with their native texts as well as English ones. In containing also thirty-five distinctively United States songs and nearly as many folk songs gathered from American people of more recent European ancestry, it is intended to live up to all that was said above about the ideals for inter-American relationships and the "American folkway." In recognition of the remarkably increased zest for what we have reluctantly been calling fine art music

(knowing no better name) and for singing such music in schools and elsewhere, the book contains also a well-stocked Composers' Corner representing various countries and great composers.

To enable many of these songs to find their way to people everywhere, coming not merely in a book but warmly alive in singing, especially where adequate re-creation of them is otherwise unlikely, the Victor Company is providing recordings of twenty-three of the folk songs, among which are nine of the Latin-American ones and two of the Canadian. Arrangements have been made also for broadcasting of them. An announcement with details of these records is given on page 32 of this issue.

An Inter-American Music Week

Amidst recent news of international affairs was a refreshing announcement by the long-established National Music Week Committee of its invitation to make this year's Music Week a celebration for and by all the countries of the Americas, all joining with us in this one of our annual occasions for special tribute to music, and general enjoyment of it. The Committee has been giving wide circulation to a printed announcement written by its well-known Secretary, Mr. C. M. Tremaine, but we are glad to quote from its many helpful and stimulating statements to ensure their being brought to the readers of this magazine, many of whom are in positions of especially large influence for helping to bring about the kinds of activities for which they call. "Music is the common language through which we can best express and advance our common aspirations and promote the spirit of amity. . . . It is hoped that the participation with us (of all the American republics) may lead later to a world-wide International Music Week. . . . No organizations or individuals in any country will be asked to participate. . . . Music Week in the United States owes its success to the fact that it is in no sense a pressure promotion. It has always been an expression of the people's desire for one occasion when they can participate together in the enjoyment of music and help to extend the appreciation of its beauty and its benefits more widely among the general public. The National Music Week Committee is merely a cooperating headquarters to give suggestions and assistance to those requesting them. It will be glad to furnish ideas and counsel to those desiring to participate in an Inter-American Week.

"Countries participating . . . will naturally wish

A typical carnival scene in the city of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil



Courtesy Brazilian Information Bureau

to emphasize their own music, as it will be primarily an observance of their nationals, but they will want to utilize also the musical heritage of the world's classics. It is hoped that through the stimulus of Inter-American Music Week, all the nations of this hemisphere may become better acquainted with the music of their sister countries. Among the people of the United States there is an active and growing interest in the music of the Central and South American countries. This interest, we are sure, they will wish to manifest increasingly in token of their spirit of friendship."

Officials of the Pan-American Union as well as of the Division of Cultural Relations and the Office for Coordination have all expressed warm interest in this project, and promising contacts are being made with leaders in the other countries. Lists of representative and available vocal and instrumental music and phonograph records are being prepared by Mr. Seeger, Mr. Evans Clark and others and will be available through the Inter-American Music Center now established at the Pan-American Union in Washington. The address of the National Music Week Committee is 45 West 45th Street, New York City.

What Some City Recreation Departments Are Doing

In Houston, Texas, an attractively bound collection of Latin-American folk and popular songs, mostly Mexican, was made and mimeographed for use by Latin-American groups on the playgrounds. Both the native words and English translations are given, but not the music. Through occasional use with other groups also, and through mere contagion, several of these songs have become popular with them, too. And the Latin-American groups are responsive also to United States songs. In many of the other centers as well as in the Latin-American ones, Mexican fiesta celebrations are held each year, always presented, however, by people from the latter centers. On these occa-

sions the music, songs and dances, costumes and food are all in the Mexican tradition. The Christmas season is especially rich in this festival-making. To every folk festival held in the city, groups from the Mexican centers bring favorite folk dances of their people. Recently it was the ten-to-twelve year old children of a Latin-American center who presented a program of songs, dances, crafts and a play, all of which were derived from the pioneer period of the United States. A Pioneer Program, it was called. A Mexican Tipica orchestra, sponsored by the WPA Music Project, is in much demand by all the centers.

In Los Angeles, Latin-American music and dances are a live part of the community culture and are apparent throughout the whole city recreation program wherever music and dancing have a place. An extensive program of children's drama calling frequently for incidental music contains each year much that is related to Spanish and early California tradition. About half of the five thousand costumes that have accumulated in the Recreation Department's Costume Workshop are Spanish or Mexican. But the Department's several adult choruses also include Spanish and Latin-American music in their repertoires; and whenever there is a festival event, as occurs now and then at the great Memorial Coliseum or elsewhere, some of the folk culture of our neighboring countries is happily represented. There is a vital and growing interchange of North and South or Central American cultures in Los Angeles. And it is

nurtured by much enjoyment, as any such interchange must be to be really effective. We remember a Play Festival held in near-by Pasadena's Rose Bowl in which folk groups of many countries, of people living in Los Angeles and near-by cities, danced. When a Mexican group danced Las Chiapanecas with its two hand-claps at the cadence of many a phrase, 40,000 spectators spontaneously joined in these claps with accuracy and zest.

What Shall We Do?

The needs, hopes and prospects that come to our minds when we contemplate the relation of the Americas to the rest of the world of today must make us want to help in them however we can. So far as music is concerned, only a beginning has been made. A lusty beginning it seems when we remember how interest in certain kinds of Latin-American music and dances has grown among people in all our cities, mainly through the dance-band versions by radio and the dance studio and Hollywood versions of the dances. Wherever people gather for high gaiety, in hotels, restaurants, ballrooms and theaters, the verve, grace and captivating rhythms of the best of this music and the dances are having their way. But "the South American way" is not all this kind of high gaiety and feasting and whatever else is meant by the entertainment people who must have coined that phrase.

The sheer love of life, the fuller and keener social responsiveness and the spontaneous expressiveness that we associate with the Latin-American temperament are certainly to be highly prized. Perhaps the most valuable thing we could do, valuable all around, would be to cultivate these traits in ourselves, the inner states of being that they are. But they are not for restaurants, theaters or dance halls alone, or for amorous romance alone. They arise also between parents and their children and among the old, and in homes, fields and all the other places of normal everyday living. In music they are best represented in the small group gathered about a guitar player or two, not so well by the large group aroused and managed by a song leader. There is a maximum of what can be called "inner propulsion" in the typical Latin-American singing. And as we have said earlier, there is a very large variety of songs and other music and dances reflecting various racial traits and many different loves and faiths and other aspects of the life of these peoples. We all have a long way to go to know these distant neigh-

bors of ours better, and there is still very little musical material available here for us to go on. However, the various agencies we have mentioned are now hard at work to get more and learn more, and anyone willing to help in bringing music's good neighborliness into inter-American relationships should keep in touch with them, especially with the Inter-American Music Center at the Pan American Union. Even now a few further suggestions can be made.

1. If, unlike Houston and Los Angeles, your community has no Latin-Americans to share their cultural resources with their neighbors:

(a) One or more capable ones might be "borrowed" now and then from another community. There will undoubtedly arise before long a number of such persons or of other Americans trained in Latin-American music and dances who will make it their profession to lead groups in these activities as, for example, Mr. Lovett of American country dance fame has so long done in his specialty, and as many a more localized person in many a city has done with American and other folk dances. The National Recreation Association may be of help in this.

(b) The phonograph can help greatly in the learning of songs and in giving authentic playings of dance music also. We have mentioned the recordings of songs from the book *Singing America*. The nine Latin-American ones of these are on Victor records 27280 and 27281, each record costing fifty cents. The Decca Album, No. 28, of *Spanish and Mexican Dances* (\$2.25) contains five records giving together the music of five Spanish dances, four Mexican and one Portuguese, played by a Mexican orchestra. One of the records, No. 2166, sold separately at 35 cents, has the music for Las Chiapanecas, previously mentioned. By the time this article appears, lists of other records of songs and of other music, including music for dances, will be available.

(c) Motion pictures can also help. Effort is now being made to discover and make available here authentic motion pictures, made in Central and South American countries, of folk activities, including singing and dancing, of the people of those countries.

(d) Advantage should be taken of good broadcasts of Latin-American songs and other music. There will likely be a series of these before long on national "hook-ups" that will be announced in advance by this magazine or by other media.

(e) Any musically sensitive and imaginative

person who has heard any Latin-American music at all (and who has not?) could make a good "go" of such songs as are in the collections that we shall now describe. Consider how far and winningly Cielito Lindo has gone from its native heath. In the *Botsford Collection of Folk Songs, Vol. I* published by G. Schirmer, Inc., New York (\$1.50) are ten songs from Mexico, one from Peru, and five other Latin-American songs unidentified as to country. Only the English texts are given within the music staves, but the native texts are given below the song. *Music Highways and Byways*, published by the Silver, Burdett Co., New York (\$1.48, with a discount for schools) contains two Argentine songs and one each from Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Haiti, Martinique, Mexico, Peru and Puerto Rico. *Folk Songs from Mexico and South America*, compiled by Eleanor Hague and published by the H. W. Gray Co., New York, (\$1.00) contains twelve songs unidentified as to country. The contents and publisher of *Singing America* are announced above. The Vocal Edition containing all the melodies, choral parts and words costs 25 cents, with a discount of 10% for fifty or more copies and 20% for a hundred or more; and the handsomely bound Edition with Accompaniments costs \$1.50, both editions obtainable from the National Recreation Association.

(f) The local public library should have the best available collections of the songs available for circulation, and it might have means for having recordings also. The librarian should know of the pamphlet of *References on Latin American Music, the Theater and the Dance* for 1941 issued free by the Division of Intellectual Cooperation of the Pan-American Union in Washington. Even if the library funds do not allow purchase of any of the publications named in it, the pamphlet itself should be in the library.

2. Since the ideal instrument for accompanying Latin-American songs is the guitar, the traditional Spanish six-stringed guitar; and since when played properly for the purpose, this instrument almost *speaks* Spanish; instruction in playing it should be offered wherever that is feasible. The best "method" that we have seen for this very purpose is in a concise booklet called *Guitar Method with Guitar Arrangements of Spanish-American Folk Songs*. It was published in mimeographed form by the Music Project of the WPA of New Mexico. It is available throughout that state and we are making effort to have it made available everywhere. Mrs. Helen Chandler Ryan is the

State Director of the Project. Its office is in Santa Fé.

3. It might be possible to start one or more Inter-American Clubs of people interested in making a hobby of experiencing what they can of Latin-American music and dances. Readings and talks on Latin-American life and affairs might be included, and also the collecting and playing of representative phonograph records, the gathering and showing of pictures and crafts, and the warming experience of a typical meal now and then. Practice in Spanish or Portuguese conversation could well be an additional activity, or it might be a central one incidental to all the rest, an initial reason for joining the club. Interest in learning to speak one or both of the languages of the other Americas is said to be increasing greatly. A lovely and significant feature of the room's decoration might well be a set of the flags of the twenty-one American republics. Annin and Company at 85 Fifth Avenue, New York, sell such a set, each flag 4x6 inches, silk, and mounted on an ebonized staff with gilded spear-points, at \$3.00, or 15 cents for each flag. A larger size, 12x18 inches, is made of cotton and costs \$3.50 per set of twenty-one. With each order of a set of these larger flags, this company gives free a copy of the music for piano of excerpts from the national anthems of the American Republics, adapted for use in flag ceremonies and for other occasions.

4. Advantage of the interest of already existing folk singing and folk dancing groups might well be taken. They would undoubtedly welcome the learning of some Latin-American dances also. The A. S. Barnes Company, New York City, publishes Mary E. Shambaugh's *Folk Festivals* which contains a section on Fiestas of the Spanish and Mexicans in California, in which the music and directions for four dances are given. (\$3.00). That company also publishes *Legends and Dances of Old Mexico* by Schwenender and Tibbels, which contains the tunes and directions for twelve dances. (\$2.00). *Regional Dances of Mexico* by Edith Johnston and published by Banks Upshaw and Company of Dallas, Texas, contains not only the music and descriptions of eight dances, but also interesting information and illustrations as to their backgrounds, a few short plays or skits of Mexican life, and suggestions for a Pan-American program and a party. A striking thing about a few of the Mexican dances we have seen in the Southwest is their resemblance to the Viennese waltz or to the Polish Varsoviana. Miss Aurora Lucero-

White, presumably of Santa Fé, has made a collection of about a dozen such dances in *Folk Dances of the Spanish-Colonials of New Mexico*. (No publisher or price given in the book.) Music and descriptions are given. In a very interesting introduction she traces these dances to the period directly after the Polish revolution when there went to Mexico a number of Polish emigrés, and the Austrian Maximilian and Carlotta, though rulers for only a brief period, also brought influences on popular dancing. But the charming dances in this book, despite their resemblances to the Polish and Viennese and to French cotillions and the German-Scotch Schottische, are warmly imbued with Mexican or Spanish qualities also. *Mexican and New Mexican Folk Dances* by Mela Sedillo, published by the University of New Mexico Press at Albuquerque, is the only book in which we found directions, though not the music for the dance, Las Chiapanecas, to which we have referred. It contains also Las Espuelas the music for which is on the other side of Decca record 2166 already mentioned; and fifteen other dances for most of which the music is given. Much revealing information and illustrations as to authentic costumes are given in the book, and also an especially detailed account and diagrams of the well-known Jarabe Tapatio dance, the one in which the girl dances within the hat brim. The complete music for Las Chiapanecas is published separately as a song, with English as well as Spanish words, by the Willis Music Co., Cincinnati, Ohio. (50 cents.)

5. Choruses, orchestras and other organized groups should be encouraged to learn and perform some of the worthily representative music of Latin-American composers. Many music lovers in our country have already enjoyed some of the music of Brazil's Villa-Lobos, who is one of the most outstanding composers of our time, and Mexico's Chavez, a distinguished composer as well as conductor, each of them rooting his expressions in the soil of his people's folk music; and there are other excellent composers of whom we shall surely be hearing. The community concert series managers should likewise be encouraged to bring some performances of such music by visiting artists and groups. The best popular music of Latin-Americans, much of which is heard through the radio, and more of which is available on phonograph records, should also be welcomed in due measure. It should be more generally known that the popular "Three O'clock in the Morning"

is by an Argentine, Julian Robledo; "Ay, Ay, Ay" by a Chilean, Perez Freire; "Perfidia" by a Puerto Rican, Alberto Dominguez. We need to become more fully aware of each of the twenty countries as a distinct nation; and there is, of course, additional reason for recognition of Puerto Rica.

6. Advantage should be taken of the Inter-American Music Week idea. Verbal support for it has come from the President of the United States and will undoubtedly come from all the Governors and Mayors and many organizations. It will have the prestige of being both a national and international observance, and there will be much newspaper and radio publicity for it. Best of all, it is a very good and important idea, especially if it is used to bring about the development of genuine lasting interest in Latin-American music and people, and of continuing activities integrated in the normal life of the community.

The Gist of It All

As has been indicated many times herein, the importance given to music in inter-American relationships springs from the belief that in experiencing the music of a different people we come close to them in spirit, we seem to feel like one of them, and we enjoy feeling so, at the same time finding in the music a welcome expression of our own selves; or at least we find pleasure in the music and are thereby made to feel friendly toward its people. In economic affairs there tend to be sharp divisions between countries, but when seen in the light of the friendly attitude that music has helped to develop, those affairs, with their need for mutual adjustments between the countries or between individual traders, are less likely to cause such divisions. In affairs of hemisphere defense and of the larger vision of the Cooperative Peace this genuine friendliness, a thing of the heart or whole life, not merely of the head, is the very life-blood of every enterprise.

But can the music of other countries affect all of us so fully and beneficently? People differ very much in the range of their responsiveness to music as to other things. Some of us like only a certain few kinds of music, perhaps only one kind, and like it well or think we do, but are left cold, if not repelled, by any other kind. We are like that with respect to people also. Many of us welcome in people only those traits and behaviors to which we are accustomed. Differences turn us

(Continued on page 50)



Photo by Philadelphia Inquirer

By
C. H. ENGLISH
Executive
Secretary
Playground and
Recreation
Association of
Philadelphia

Residents in a number of Philadelphia's playgrounds rolled up their sleeves and went to work with a vengeance when they learned help was to be had in securing the playgrounds they had wanted so many years

Playlots at \$50 Each

LAST SPRING there were many people in Philadelphia who rubbed their eyes when they read in a local paper of a campaign to expand the play facilities of the city by developing a new kind of playground called a "playlot." These playlots, it was announced, could be developed for the small sum of \$50 per unit, and citizens or organizations were to be given the privilege of contributing that sum, which would make it possible for a new safe play area to be created in neighborhoods where playgrounds did not exist.

There was an immediate response. The honor roll of donors grew longer each day. Not content with contributing only one unit, several individuals and organizations donated funds for four or five

playlots. The goal, as announced by the *Philadelphia Inquirer* which sponsored the campaign, was twenty-five playgrounds. This objective was reached in five days, and still checks came in. On the twelfth day of the campaign the paper announced that contributions had provided for over fifty playlots and that no more could be accepted. "The goal had been doubled—the most successful campaign in years." In spite of the announcement checks continued to arrive, the final number being fifty-four and the total amount collected \$2,700.

Who started this amazing idea? What is a playlot and how could one be equipped and supervised for \$50?

A playlot is a leased vacant property varying in size from 45' by 60' to a full city block and dedicated to play with leadership during the summer season. Fifty dollars provided funds for a minimum of equipment, supplies, and insurance.

A Cooperative Undertaking

The plan was initiated by the Playground and Recreation Association, but several "partners" cooperated to make the plan successful:

The Bureau of Recreation, Department of Welfare—Supervision and training of leaders.

WPA—Assignment of play leaders.

Department of Public Assistance (Relief) — Assignment of caretakers and squads of men to prepare areas.

NYA — Manufacture of equipment and assignment of junior play leaders.

Philadelphia Inquirer—Publicity and recipient of contributions.

Playground and Recreation Association—Business management, i.e., execution of leases, insurance, purchase of supplies and equipment, inspection and selection of properties. General direction of the plan.

By pooling the resources of these six partners, and with the use of contributed funds, it was possible to develop a successfully directed play program for neglected children of the city.

Development of the Plan

During the publicity campaign it was announced that the Playground and Recreation Association would be glad to hear from property owners who would be willing to lease for three months their vacant property for a playlot, and that such leases would be accepted by the Association which would insure against liability and pay a nominal fee of \$1.00. It was made plain that remission of taxes was not possible under these short-term leases.

The daily news story encouraged neighborhoods to make application for playlots. In each case they were asked to report on the size and location of the lot, the name of the owner, and the distance to the nearest established playground.

Over two hundred properties were inspected and listed. Selection of areas was made following a study as to suitability of lot, the real need for service, and the assurance of neighborhood cooperation. The next step was to secure the leases. A simple form was developed by the Association's Counsel. It was not difficult to secure the owners' consent if only they could be discovered. The length of time consumed in tracking down ownership and carrying through the necessary negotiations was a major reason why only thirty-eight playlots were operated during the summer.

In Pennsylvania, the state requires that persons receiving relief shall render service to public agencies when called upon to do so. Through the Bureau of Recreation, squads of relief men, called DPA workers, were assigned to grade and make presentable the vacant lots selected. Tools were provided by the Bureau. Not a single truck was used to haul away the debris, although in many cases the lots were in terrible condition. The simple, but effective, method employed was to dig large enough holes to bury the debris, using the surplus dirt for resurfacing.

While this aspect of the plan was progressing, NYA was asked to build the simple equipment, the material being purchased from the \$50 fund. From the NYA shops the following were made for each unit:

2 Tables and 4 Benches (painted green)

2 Volleyball posts

4 Sand Court boards

1 Good-sized sign indicating the sponsor's name, the cooperating agencies, and a notice—"Not responsible for accidents."

The *Inquirer* gave the campaign a prominent place in the paper and an unusual amount of space. While seemingly everyone was reading about the playlots, business firms were visited regarding supplies and materials. They were not asked for contributions, but were requested to sell at cost. It was truly amazing how much could be purchased with \$50 on that price level. No one lost money, and everyone gained. One of the unusual savings was to secure a blanket insurance coverage for \$5,000/\$10,000 at \$2.65 per unit.

Leaders Assigned

Arrangements were made with WPA to assign their leaders to the project three weeks in advance of the opening of the playlots. For two weeks they were sent to the playgrounds directed by the city Bureau of Recreation where they received experience and guidance from professional workers. The remaining week was devoted to intensive training as a group. Two NYA girls were assigned to each playlot as assistants. The season opened July 1st and continued to Labor Day.

One of the first tasks before the leaders was to complete, if need be, the organization of a neighborhood sponsoring committee. Eighteen committees were very active and are still genuinely interested. As would be expected, these eighteen neighborhoods were the communities that had requested playlots, and a number had raised the \$50 required. Other locations were decided upon

without the expressed wish of the neighborhood and the funds provided by a donor unknown to them. While the service was appreciated by these neighbors, sponsor relationship in most cases was not successful. Perhaps another season will bring cooperation from these groups, especially if the leaders assigned are skilled in organization.

Use of Surplus Funds

To have surplus funds is indeed a unique situation. Since only thirty-eight playlots could be developed, we faced the problem of selecting from the fifty-four contributing sponsors who would be assigned a playlot. There were several individuals and firms who contributed more than \$50. To these we assigned just one playlot. Playlots were also approved for every neighborhood that had raised funds locally. But not all our friends could be assigned playlots. Finally, it was discovered there was on hand a balance of \$860.00 to be returned to the donors. We confess a great reluctance at returning this money and not putting it to needed use. It was worth trying, at any rate, to see if they would accept an alternate service for these additional funds. Accordingly, Directors of the Association made personal calls on these friends presenting the three following substitute services:

1. To provide milk for undernourished children at the low "school rate" per bottle.
2. To send to camp children under twelve years of age selected from our very poor districts.
3. To contribute toward the maintenance of an interesting playhouse in the Kensington district.

The Directors did such a good job that all the donors gladly assigned their contributions to the above services and shared in sending 115 children to camp for a total of 1,150 camp days, and provided 16,870 bottles of milk for needy youngsters.

How the Money Was Expended

The following items were supplied to each playlot at the beginning of the season:

1 Sign	\$.64
2 Tables (8'x3'), 4 Benches (8'x1'), and 2 Volleyball Posts.....	9.03
4 Boards for Sand Court (12'x14') and 4 tons of Sand	7.05
1 Large Suit Case for supplies.....	3.50
1 First Aid Kit62
1 Volley Ball and Net	3.72
2 Soft Balls and 1 Bat.....	2.01
Insurance	2.65
Cartage of supplies and equipment to storage	1.33

Miscellaneous Items	2.85
300 Membership Buttons	3.75
Games and Handcraft supplies.....	10.12
	<hr/>
	\$47.27

The following play materials were supplied in the suit cases at the beginning of the season:

Boxes of crayons	Tissue paper
Sets of checkers and boards	Construction paper
Rubber quoit set	Brown wrapping paper
Sand play set	Print paper
Small rubber ball	Coloring books
Large rubber ball	Pencils
Scissors	Jacks and balls
Pipe cleaners	Hoot Nanny
Crepe paper	Shellac and brushes
Large and small sand pails	Paste

For each playlot we supplied three hundred 1½ inch membership buttons with the name of the contributing sponsor and the agencies responsible for the direction of the playlot.

Some Left Over

The total expenditure, it should be noted, was only \$47.27 per playlot, leaving an unexpended balance of \$2.73. This was returned to the donor with a complete accounting and report of program and attendance. The reaction of the contributors in receiving an unexpected unexpended balance was interesting. One donor wrote: "I don't see how all this could be done for less than \$50. My word, you should be a business man and not a social worker!" Another wrote: "The receipt of your report and check was the greatest surprise I have experienced in a decade. The check for an unexpended balance got me. I did not expect it and must commend you on your social, as well as business, ability. These two are not always combined so satisfactorily. Count on me for another season."

The plan not to spend all of the \$50 and to return a small balance was deliberate. We would have sent back nine cents should that have been the balance. We had learned from other experiences that such a procedure creates confidence. It is an excellent method of securing continuous interest and support for future services. Besides, it is honest. Practically all the letters received indicated a desire to participate again. In fact, five playlots for the second season have been assured.

Applied Psychology

Children, and most adults, vision a playground as having swings, slides, wading pool, and other equipment. The very meager equipment provided

(Continued on page 60)

A Children's May Carnival

HALF OF THE FUN for youngsters in a children's May carnival, circus style, is the opening parade held in the early afternoon. The parade offers a chance to make many unique animals and birds in the arts and crafts club prior to the carnival. Cloth sacks, oilcloth, and scrap lumber can be used, and the rag bag might be consulted for further materials.

Newspapers, bits of wire, and paint once made up the entire animal section of one of our best carnival parades. Bale and chicken wire "underpinnings" and newspapers pasted over the desired shapes result in interesting animals that can be painted with water colors, kalsomine, decorator powders, and left-over house paint.

Not to be outdone by the animals and goofy birds are the other brilliantly costumed paraders. Their costumes, usually of paper cambric, might represent different nationalities. The clown suits are also made in this order. A drum corps or other marching units of local organizations will act as "fillers" and will add color to the parade.

The line of march should be in a circuit away from and back to the carnival grounds or hall. The children putting on the carnival should not have to walk very far in the parade, for in the circus style carnival the parade merely opens the festivities. It can easily be seen that the circus style carnival is preferable, as the children are already in costume—making it easy to present a show immediately after the parade. Each costumed child should follow up from the parade into some stunt, song, drama, or skit.

The Carnival Grounds

A hall may be used for the carnival as well as a playground. Both are used

If you are making plans for a May Carnival, why not have it circus style?

By LOUISE E. THOMPSON

Miss Thompson has had sixteen years of experience in recreation work with girls and has also been active in directing dramatic activities. At the present time she is Director, Recreation Leaders' Training, Work Projects Administration, in Fresno County, California.

even more successfully when combined. The booth activities do not then interfere with the show, and printed programs will inform visitors of the time for each part of the carnival. All but the candy or ice cream booths may be open or not, as desired, during the performance.

If a hall alone is to be used, booths should be set around the outer edge to make place for the audience during the performance. Girls may sell candy between acts if desired, and all booths should be closed when the show begins.

In a case where only grounds are available, booths are set up around the outskirts, and continuous or intermittent shows may be produced on a raised dais in a central spot.

Where both hall and grounds are used, streets between the outside booths will facilitate movement among the crowd.

It is highly important that the carnival grounds or hall be well lighted.

Decorations

"This is the time of the gladsome May," and this is the time, too, when we can indulge ourselves in brilliant color schemes. But, let it be remembered, the stage decorations should be on the pastel side to show off the brilliance of the costuming. At this time of the year blossoms are available, and they make ideal coloring against green tree backgrounds (painted or real) to show up the participants. Blossoms can be made and wired or tied to limbs and twigs.

At a carnival the booths only have the right to vie in color with the costumes, for the booths do not detract from the players.

Are you having an Indian dinner of beans and corn

"Spring seems to belong peculiarly to the young. It is as if the children were poised and eager to go out and meet their kindred spirits—early blossoms, swelling leaf buds, returning songbirds, and all the shy, new-born woodland creatures. Daily, even in city yards and streets, there are exciting discoveries and welcome renewals: the first hurdy-gurdy, the friendly balloon man, the flower vender's familiar call. What secret fraternity sets the date and rallies hoops, marbles, and jackstones from winter concealment, and chalks cabalistic patterns on every smooth pavement?"—Annie E. Moore in *Children's Religion*, April, 1941.

(succotash) with corn bread or brown bread and greens salad? Then by all means a wigwam should be the ticket booth or the entrance to the dining hall. "Indian" boys and girls may serve the dinner, fill glasses of water, or see that people are seated by the numbers on their tickets. (Either colored tickets may be made for certain tables, or the seating may be carried out according to numbers. This saves much trouble and time.)

Booths

Try to have unique as well as attractive booths at the carnival. It is worth while from the selling angle and will contribute to the beauty of the whole.

Do not permit a booth to undersell or to offer cheap articles that will fool the customer. Such procedure may work at a commercial carnival where barkers always over-exaggerate and never make their aim, but never at a dignified community project. Articles in the "fish pond" may be white elephants, but here people really pay to be surprised.

Games of skill are fine for a booth, as they are right in line with the main reason for having a carnival—a carnival of recreational value. With any other motive in mind you are lost, unless, of course, you expect to go into the carnival business!

It is better to say, "Oh well, we didn't make much money,

but everyone had a good time," than, "We made more money than we planned on those cheap trinkets." The idea behind the carnival may be to buy new gym suits, but the whole plan should be based on giving the visitors a "perfectly swell time." This in itself pays the dividends.

People do not go to carnivals to spend money although they expect to. The knack is in knowing how to give them so much enjoyment that they do not mind spending.

The "fish pond" booth may be a painted screen decorated with an ocean scene or a fish bowl. The "fish" are behind the screen. Bamboo or willow poles with string lines and pin hooks may be used for the fishing. The attendant sitting behind the screen puts a present on the hook when the line is thrown in.

Six good booths where articles are sold outright and as many skill games make a well balanced small town carnival. Too many booths for the visitors expected often leave the committee with articles unsold, food not used, and a general headache.

If the occasion is late evening or night, a dinner may be served; tickets may be sold to advantage prior to the carnival.

An arts and crafts exhibit, not too large, is the outlet of expression for those children who cannot participate in the show. With the aid of an adult leader they may take care of the exhibit and explain the display to interested visitors.

Nature exhibits are timely in May. Flower arrangements, mineral and stamp collections add color and give each child a definite part in the carnival.

Carnival Shows

Clowns. Clowns should be naturally funny or tumbly. Mat stunts and rope tricks are as much a part of

the carnival clown's work as looking funny. In any case, have a clown, if he only dresses up and walks about. Songs and musical instruments of the comb and tissue variety may be added to his performance. Dressing the kitchen orchestra in clown suits helps them give a better performance and contributes to carnival atmosphere.

Dancers. The Maypole dance is the outstanding event of the May

Have you ever considered how important a clown is to the success of a circus?



Courtesy National Cash Register Company

(Continued on page 52)

Attractive, Functional, and Economical— The Playground Building

PLEASING TO THE EYE, functional in design, and easy on the budget—these attributes are always present in the ideal playground building, but it is sometimes difficult to include all three in planning a structure.

The Park Board of Pittsfield, Massachusetts, has attained these objectives in three recently constructed buildings. Two are playground shelters, and the third is a playfield field house. From the photographs on the opposite page, it will be seen that all three of the buildings are of brick construction with asbestos shingle roofs.

Shelter A has been built at Springside Park playground in a central location to serve the entire area. It consists of a small activities room, toilet facilities for boys and girls, and storage and heater room. The latter room can also be used for a director's office as the heater takes up only a small amount of space.

Floors are concrete, and the interior of all of the rooms is of glazed brick. This simplifies maintenance, since the whole building can be flushed out with a hose when necessary.

Shelter A serves a dual purpose. As it is only a few feet from the natural wading pool that is used for skating in the winter, the building becomes a skating shelter during the skating season. A portable wooden floor is used to protect the concrete from the sharp edges of the skates.

Shelter B is a small structure designed primarily to provide the necessary toilet facilities and a director's office. This building, located in Clapp Park, is also constructed of brick with asbestos shingles and a glazed brick interior.

One of the interesting features about these shelters is the cost of construction. Both were built under general contract. The Springside building cost \$5,510 and the Clapp structure \$2,532.

Deming Field, the largest and most highly developed playfield in Pittsfield, is divided into two sections. A fee can be charged for admission to the activities conducted in one section. The

By F. ELLWOOD ALLEN
Specialist in Recreation Areas and Facilities
National Recreation Association

other section is a playfield for general public use. Because of the division of this area the field house was located midway between the two sections and was so designed that the toilet facilities could be accessible to all. (A study of the plan for Building C will reveal how this has been made possible.) The building provides public toilet facilities for men and women, two team rooms each with separate shower and toilet, an office and director's room, and a large boiler and service room.

Here again it is interesting to note that this building, sixty-nine feet long by twenty-two feet wide, cost only \$12,617 under general contract. It is constructed of the same materials used in building the two shelter houses.

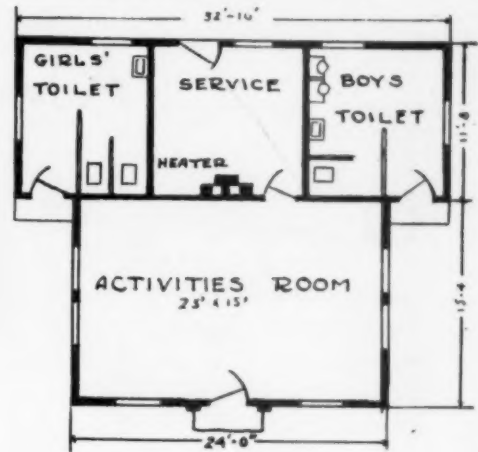
Many communities are finding it necessary to replace inadequate, incorrectly located playground structures or to provide buildings on playgrounds which have no form of shelter. A large number of these municipalities are faced with the problem of constructing permanent, attractive and functional playground buildings at a cost that would not be prohibitive. As shown by the structures described here, the Pittsfield Park Board has taken an important step toward solving this perplexing problem.

Too little attention has been given in the past to the design and construction of playground buildings, and also to their proper location. Many playgrounds are without any buildings, while others have structures which do not adequately meet present standards. It is the hope of the Association that the three buildings shown here will have suggestions to offer communities faced with the problem of erecting buildings which are attractive and serviceable, and at the same time relatively inexpensive to construct.

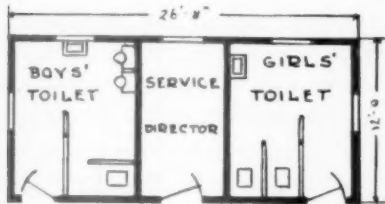
NOTE: The National Recreation Association will be very glad to receive photographs and plans of shelter houses and playground buildings recently constructed about which information may not yet have been received at headquarters. There are always requests for material of this type, and the plans on file must be up to date.



SHELTER - A -

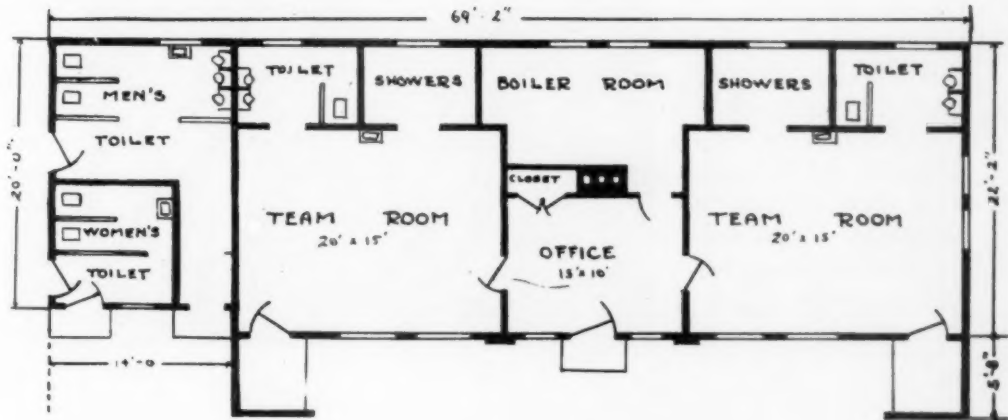


SHELTER - B -



J M A VANCE - ARCHITECT
PITTSFIELD - MASS.

FIELD
HOUSE
- C -



Adventuring in Folkways

ON MAY 1, 2, and 3, in Washington, D.C., the National Folk Festival Association

will hold its eighth annual three-day get-together of traditional folk songs, dances, ballads, ceremonials, and stories which have grown out of a homespun philosophy deep-rooted in the heart of America.

The reason for the festival can best be given in the words of Sarah Gertrude Knott when she began the venture in 1933. Said Miss Knott, "If people like to sing, dance and act why not a national forum for their talents? These folk don't have much time to stop and appraise or analyze their cultural advance; they sing and dance for the very joy of singing and dancing. I never hear a folk festival today, after directing scores of big and little ones, that I do not recall with joy the prophetic words of Walt Whitman, 'I hear America singing.'"

Incidentally, back of this smooth-running spectacle stands an understanding, tireless, hardworking individual—Sarah Gertrude Knott, founder and director of the National Folk Festival Association, assisted by Major M. J. Pickering, business manager of the Association. Major Pickering has been with the Folk Festival Association since 1933 when Miss Knott began the undertaking of forming a Folk Festival Association. Sparing neither time nor effort, Miss Knott has worked diligently for the past eight years to bring to her audiences each year the finest of folk talent this country has to offer. This annual festival

By HELEN G. SOMMER
Temple, Pennsylvania

contains the best from each regional festival. Miss Knott has gone into every state seeking for

these folk expressions and encouraging the people to keep alive their fine old traditions. Last year there were six hundred performers from twenty-seven states and Hawaii. As this cavalcade of American folk lore passes across the stage in Constitution Hall we are impressed by the fact that it is not a revival but a survival of folk art. Therein lies the secret of its success and the ever-growing interest in the movement.

Some ask, "What is folk lore?" It is all the stories people tell, the songs they sing, the dances they do—to entertain themselves. In this last phrase, "to entertain themselves," we have found the reason why so much folk material has remained a simple, nat-

Acadian dancers from Louisiana
play their part in the festival



ural and unassuming expression of the people. Country folk learn these songs, dances and stories from their parents, who in turn learned them from their parents. They are so old that no one knows quite who made them up in the beginning. People in all parts of the country have different kinds of folk lore, depending upon where they live, what they do for a living, and the type of people they are.

After seven years' experience and much encouragement from Miss Knott, regional festivals are being held all over the country prior to the National Festival in Washington. This has been responsible for a great cultural advance and supplies an ever growing need in leisure-time pursuits. In recent

years there has been an increasing interest in folk art. Recreation leaders all over the country are finding in it a wealth of material for their programs. They have found this work presents one of the most worth while low-cost recreational activities developed within recent years. Teachers of physical education and directors of recreation are recognizing the place our own folk dances, music and songs can play in recreation and education. Co-recreation, of which we hear so much today, can be found at its best where the folk gather to sing, dance and tell their stories. Elizabeth Burchenal has said that folk dancing was the original co-recreation.

Where leaders have set up certain standards for regional festivals and have faithfully followed them success has resulted, but when leaders were lax and did not adhere to genuine traditions the plans have fallen through. Recreation leaders have found that they must approach the study of folk culture with a sympathetic understanding and appreciation of the background of these traditions, and present the results of their study in as dignified a manner as possible in order to preserve the charm of these expressions. In the lovely old songs, dances, and myths used by the pioneers, who after a hard day needed to relax, we find mirrored all their hopes, aspirations, trials and tribulations. We get a deeper insight into their philosophic acceptance of success and reverses.

The most inspiring and relaxing forms of recreation are the simpler ones, needing little, if any, equipment. We find these necessary requirements in folk dances and songs which need no large auditorium, no expensive orchestra. Take an old barn, a couple of fiddlers, throw in a harmonica player and you have the makings of as pleasant a time as you could wish! Our life today is so complex we need some form of simple dignified recreation. What better place than where the folk tunes are the order of the day?

"Until recent times we looked to Europe for our cultural and economic patterns. At last we are opening our eyes to the necessity for developing relations with nations in this hemisphere to whom we are bound by ties stronger than mere geography. . . . Since there is at present a general stirring of interest in American folk lore, let us take advantage of the situation and make organized efforts to preserve our cultural heritage as we are trying to preserve our forests, land and wildlife." — *Sarah Gertrude Knott.*



Lumberjack minstrels from Michigan enjoying a story-swapping contest!

For those in the recreation field the festival provides an excellent opportunity to get first hand information concerning folk culture, for after each performance through a social hour arranged by the Folk Festival Association staff they may meet and talk with the participants. Two features of the festival most helpful to recreation workers are the morning conferences and the exhibit held in connection with the Festival each year. In the conferences opportunity is given for discussion, led by the finest leaders in folk lore, of the songs, dances, stories and costumes. The exhibit is a source of much help to those staging regional festivals. Not an end in itself, it forms an important part in this interpretation of the background of our folk expressions. Every director of a regional festival should plan to include an exhibit if it is at all possible. Those attending the festival should without fail attend the morning conferences, see the exhibit, and plan to attend at least one of the social hours after the evening performances.

Men, women and children come each year solely for the honor of presenting their particular brand

(Continued on page 59)

Ninety Minutes a Week?

By R. G. BREEDEN

SHORTLY AFTER the program for voluntary training of selected candidates in the Naval Reserve was initiated in June 1940, the Bureau of Navigation directed the establishment of a Naval Reserve Midshipman's School at Northwestern University, Chicago campus. Physically qualified young men between the ages of 19 and 26, who are citizens of the United States and have at least two years of college credit from accredited schools, are entitled to volunteer their services. Men who successfully pass all requirements are sent for training duty as apprentice seamen aboard a battleship or cruiser for one month. At the end of this period these men are sent to school where they are enrolled as midshipmen. One of these schools is located at Northwestern University, the others aboard the USS Illinois in New York Harbor, and at Annapolis.

For ninety supercharged days midshipmen are instructed in comprehensive courses in navigation, seamanship, and ordnance and gunnery. With the successful completion of these subjects they are commissioned as Ensigns in the Naval Reserve. The United States Government plans to commission 5,000 men by September 1941.

At Northwestern there are nine hundred midshipmen enrolled in the current course. They use facilities of the Chicago campus and the Passavant Hospital. As far as is possible their life simulates that aboard ship. Naval terms and customs are adopted in all practical instances. Floors are known as "decks," stairs as "ladders," food as "chow." Midshipmen turn to at reveille at 6:30, and taps is sounded at 10:30. Add to that the fact that the future officers are attempting to learn

It's not so much a question of the amount of time available as the way it's organized, and at the Naval Reserve Midshipmen's School at Northwestern University, Chicago, they're using to advantage every minute of the hour and a half set aside each week for the recreation program.

in three months what Annapolis and ROTC graduates learn in four years (minus the engineering training), and it is easy to imagine the strain that each individual goes through, and to appreciate the importance of having a well-organized recreation program.

In an effort to meet the need, Commanding Officer, Captain B. B. Wygant has set aside an hour and one half each Wednesday afternoon for organized athletic exercise. During their liberty hours on week days from 4:30 to 5:45 P. M. (1630 to 1745 naval time) midshipmen also have an opportunity to relax; and from Saturday noon until Sunday evening, all men are at liberty.

Facilities Available

We have been fortunate in having in the immediate neighborhood of the campus a number of athletic facilities of which the midshipmen can take advantage. Within a radius of three blocks there is the Lawson Y.M.C.A. with all types of athletic equipment, but naturally limited to the number it can accommodate. The 122nd National Guard Field Artillery Armory has a spacious floor for touch football. A short distance from this is the new Abbott Hall dormitory, in which four hundred men are quartered, with an exercise room

in the basement, two squash courts, and several bowling alleys. Behind Abbott Hall is the Arena, the home of the Chicago Blackhawks for several years. There is a spacious artificially flooded skating rink, and twenty-four bowling alleys on this site. The Tower Town Club in which five hundred midshipmen are quartered has facilities for fencing, boxing, basketball, and bowling.

In these five buildings

(Continued on page 61)



Playing for a Stronger America



WITH THE NATIONAL emergency placing increased strains on American life, this country is at last awakening fully to the value of physical fitness for all the people.

Are American young men, particularly those of ages 21 to 35 on whom the greatest burden of military preparation will fall, physically fit for the tasks ahead? Some experts say, "Yes." Others, "No."

"American youth is physically, morally, and vocationally below the par necessary for a first class Army force," Brigadier-General E. L. Gruber, commandant of Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, asserted recently in a newspaper dispatch. But in California, draft officials are finding it necessary to reject only about three out of every fifty men for physical deficiencies, early reports show, although all over the country army men expect they might have to reject some forty per cent of the men examined when called up for draft induction.

On the whole, the records indicate that American men coming into the army are an average of two inches taller and fifteen pounds heavier than in 1917, and that the health level of the nation has risen considerably in the past two and one-half decades.

Regardless of who has the last word in this argument, one thing is obvious: America has become conscious of its physical fitness (or lack of it). There is a movement getting under way to

By SAMUEL L. FRIEDMAN
Playground and Recreation Department
Los Angeles, California

raise the entire level of physical condition in the nation. This is the cue for public recreation to enter the picture and demonstrate its worth to the country.

When the present draft law was being considered, the Army general staff recommended an eighteen month training period to bring men to the peak of efficiency, but Congress reduced this period to one year.

Obviously the shorter and more intensive period of military training places added importance on good physical condition, and such preliminary development as men may receive before they are inducted into the military service becomes a national defense asset. Public playgrounds and recreation programs, therefore, have already contributed immeasurably to national preparedness through their regular activities of which thousands of young men of military age have had the benefit.

In addition, there are millions of people who have had the advantages of healthful outdoor sports and games, swimming, camping, and other pursuits through the facilities of the recreation centers, and this background will stand them in

good stead in the country's present period of duress. The mental balance, harmony, sense of social cooperation, and other psychological benefits of constructive play will also help these people to withstand the added strains of an emergency situation.

Certainly the regular program of recreation centers should be continued. But it is also well for them to adapt their program further to the service of the nation by incorporating additional features even more directly allied with the country's present needs. Sensitive to the changes going on about them, playgrounds must go with the tide, keeping abreast of changing currents of public interest and need. That is good public relations as well as good programming.

Physical Training Clubs

One of the newer ideas which has attracted nation-wide attention is the plan originated by the Los Angeles Playground and Recreation Department to establish special physical training clubs for men who are registered for the draft.

The United States Selective Service has registered some seventeen million young men for potential call for military training. More than 200,000 of them are in Los Angeles. To these draft-card holders the Department decided to offer a unique program. Free physical training clubs were to be established at municipal recreation centers throughout the city. These groups would be open to any man who could present his draft registration card. They were to meet in the evenings, once or twice a week, the most convenient dates to be selected by the participants. They were to offer exercises, gymnastic marching, group games, and informal sports, all de-

signed to help the men "toughen up" physically, acquire greater confidence, overcome the kind of ineptitude which lands rookie soldiers on the awkward squad, and develop an *esprit de corps* which would mentally prepare them for better service—either in military or civilian life.

The general purpose of the program was non-military and primarily recreational in character. "Get fit and have fun doing so" was the expression most frequently used to describe the objective.

The plan immediately won the warm sympathy and cooperation of Selective Service officials. Major E. J. Plato, Selective Service Coordinator for Southern California, joined with George Hjelte, Superintendent of the Los Angeles Playground and Recreation Department, in making the first press announcement of the impending program. Dr. C. A. Dykstra, national director of the Selective Service System, wrote from Washington, D. C.: "I am glad that Los Angeles is plowing a new furrow which Selective Service and the Army itself can look at and, to change the figure, use as a guinea pig. The idea runs exactly along the line of one which has been revolving in my own mind."

A fanfare of newspaper and radio publicity helped to launch the program in Los Angeles. Posters were placed about the city and put up in street cars and busses. Leaflets were distributed

through many sources. Local draft boards agreed to post placards and distribute liter-

ature about the plan. Industries were contacted and permitted speakers to address their employees. They cooperated further by putting up notices on bulletin boards and distributing announcements about the program. Everywhere people started to talk about the idea, and many a man who hadn't had

One of the many games and sports enjoyed in the classes conducted by the Los Angeles Playground and Recreation Department



any real exercise in years began to think seriously about correcting his sagging waistline, caved-in chest, or flabby arm and leg muscles.

Registration for the physical fitness classes began soon afterward. In a short time thirty-two clubs were functioning at Los Angeles recreation centers. Obvious at once was the fact that a great number of the participants were newcomers to the playgrounds. The classes were not duplicating the work of sports leagues or other activities, whose participants naturally felt less need for conditioning than men who had been getting little or no exercise. Many of the men had never taken any regular part in a sport or physical recreation activity. Certainly such individuals really needed some training!

From the beginning, the Recreation Department was resolved to maintain its standards and ideals of recreational service. Regimentation of the men was studiously avoided. The non-compulsory character of the classes was constantly emphasized, especially when an occasional man came in to register with a somewhat bewildered expression, asking, "Do I *have* to join one of these classes because I'm registered for the draft?" To encourage continuity in participation, the men were advised that those who maintained a steady attendance record over a period of twelve weeks would receive awards in the form of "physical fitness certificates."

Consistent with the democratic idea pervading all recreation center groups, the draftee clubs were organized on a self-governing basis, each electing its own captain and committees for the planning of extracurricular events, such as hikes, dances, field meets, or programs in combination with other training clubs.

Although open to the participation of all draft registrants, whether expecting an early call for military service or not, the training clubs from the beginning attracted a majority of men who anticipated early induction into a training camp, the "Class 1A" men. The value of these clubs to the men has since been demonstrated in several known instances where "graduates" of the playground training groups were immediately named corporals upon arriving at army camps. Decidedly their physical condition, knowledge of the rudiments of marching, and better ability to handle themselves with other men, gave them an "edge" over others when they started training.

Now the program is receiving wider acceptance for its serious and practical functions, over and

above the pure recreation which it continues to provide. Other cities are beginning to take it up, and inquiries about it pour in regularly — from Chicago; New York; Durham, North Carolina — communities everywhere. The National Recreation Association is helping to provide the information requested by distributing a supply of leaflets describing the plan furnished by the Los Angeles Playground and Recreation Department.

In benefiting a large number of men who have come to the municipal playgrounds for the training clubs, the program has incidentally proved of great help to the playground directors themselves. One of its effects was to stimulate the directors' interest in in-service training in order to refresh their knowledge of leadership activities for men's groups. Since the plan was launched in Los Angeles, there has been a weekly class for directors in the technique of leadership of the training clubs. The class has been regularly attended by virtually every director, on his own time.

Girls and women have also been awakened by the nation-wide emergency to a desire to contribute their share to the preparedness program, and the municipal playgrounds of Los Angeles are endeavoring to meet this demand. With the cooperation of the American Red Cross, classes are being offered in first aid, home nursing, nutrition, and other types of home defense service. The Red Cross has agreed to provide an instructor wherever a group of twenty-five or more women or girls put in a request for such help.

These developments in Los Angeles are part of what promises to be a "boom" in public recreation service during the coming months of national stress and strain. It was during the war period of 1917-1918 that such activities as the War Camp Community Service of the National Recreation Association helped to generate momentum for the public recreation movement in the United States. The 1941 emergency may prove an even greater stimulus to the growth of public recreation service. The need and the opportunity are recognized by thinking individuals everywhere.

Writing in the *American Journal of Public Health*, Dr. W. S. Leathers, Dean and Professor of Public Health at Vanderbilt University's School of Medicine, points out succinctly, "The driving power and enthusiasm of a nation depend upon the development and maintenance of the highest possible well being and fitness."

Speaking from Canada's war experience, A. T.

(Continued on page 50)

How One High School Trains for Leisure

By E. DE ALTON PARTRIDGE, Ph.D.

New Jersey State Teachers College
Montclair, New Jersey

ALL THINGS must have a beginning. Methods of instruction or principles of school administration that are now accepted in American schools are in many cases the result of early experimentation that had very humble beginnings. Some new ideas sweep the country and then die out from lack of substance to keep them alive. Other movements come as the inevitable result of social forces that are far-reaching and so much a part of life that they grow in spite of what single individuals may do to aid or hinder them.

The growth of activities that may be classed as "training for worthy use of leisure" in school programs has been slow in getting started, but it is riding on a ground swell that will ultimately carry it into most every school system of the country. The young people of America are entitled to specific training in the use of leisure time. Educators have for many years written this conviction into their reports and recently there have sprouted forth various movements that are designed to make leisure training a definite part of school experience.

It is one thing to agree that something should be taught in the schools and it is quite another to set up the necessary procedures so that it is done well. An administrator who really wants to do something in preparing his pupils for worthy use of leisure is confronted with various questions. How should this be done? Should there be some classes in leisure? Should it be done in the club program? Can students learn to enjoy activities that are taught them as the result of regular class work?

It was in an attempt to answer some of these questions that an experimental program was set into operation at the demonstration school connected with the State Teachers College at Montclair, New Jersey. This project is now in its third year and has been in operation long enough to draw at least tentative conclusions.

In the January, 1941, issue of *Recreation*, Dr. Partridge discussed the problem, "Should the Schools Train for Leisure?" In this issue he tells of experiments which were successfully conducted in one high school without changes in schedules or additions to the school's staff.

Aims of the Program

In general it is the aim of this program to furnish young people with a rounded experience in leisure and recreation activities so that upon graduation from high school they will have the following:

1. An acquaintance with a large number of different activities as a basis for choice of leisure pursuits.
2. A large number of actual skills that can be used in the worthy use of leisure time. These skills to be of a kind that do not demand elaborate school equipment, but rather give promise of carry-over into later life.
3. A practical knowledge, based upon actual experience, of the recreation facilities of their county, state and nation.
4. An appreciation of the problems faced by cities, counties, states, and the nation in attempting to make adequate recreation facilities available to the public.
5. A set of materials compiled by the students themselves including practical information about leisure-time activities.

It has been definitely a part of the plan to go forward without any great extension of expenditures, but rather to work with the facilities at hand and the personnel available. It was the belief that by expanding teaching units in the regular curriculum and supplementing these with special projects that the aims could at least be approached. If something beyond this could be done, all the better.

Getting Started

No new staff member was added to carry on the work. A regular member of the teaching staff of the high school took the initiative and worked with the existing facilities. The first year of the experiment, two regular periods a week were scheduled for the eleventh grade of the high school during which time they planned leisure projects and carried on activities in this field. During the year several field trips were taken in connection with the interests of the group. The trips included canoe trips on a near-by stream, a salt-water fishing trip, overnight trips to a near-by state park, and hiking on the Appalachian Trail.

Besides these outdoor activities the group investigated other leisure possibilities. A movie was made of their year's projects which of course meant that many members of the class learned how to plan, film and edit a home movie. Members of the class who made collections of various kinds brought them to school and explained their interest to the group. Several of the students made their own Christmas cards using still photography as a medium and several different types of craft work were introduced.

In the second year of the experiment it was felt that an attempt should be made to make these activities available to the entire student body so that as a student progressed through the grades he would be exposed to a varied set of leisure-time activities. The nature of these activities covered a wide field of interest and ultimately settled into grade levels. For example, the eleventh grade is now taken on the deep-sea fishing trip each year, the tenth grade goes canoeing while the seniors take the overnight trip to the state forest. There is no set rule about this, but this makes it possible for each student to cover a variety of activities during his stay in the high school.

Record Keeping with a Purpose

Several methods of motivation are used to keep the students interested in the activities presented. The best motivation, it has been found by experience, consists of the students who have been on the trips or are having a good time in other activities. Through the school newspaper the whole school learns about the special activities of the various classes.

In addition to these methods of motivation the students have been told that the academic records of each pupil will be supplemented by a record of the extracurricular and recreation activities in

which they participate. These records will be accumulative from year to year and form the basis for the activities that are planned. Ultimately, if time permits, it would be well to review these records to determine which students were not getting the benefits of the program that is offered.

The Question of Leadership

Since this whole program is being introduced without any material budgetary provision it has been necessary to utilize leadership that already existed rather than bring in new personnel. Mem-

bers of the regular staff who have special interests have been invited to present their hobbies and sponsor them. On the other hand, there are graduate and undergraduate students in the recreation leadership and camping courses of the college who need experience and are training for this type of work. Under the proper guidance, the more mature students assist on the hikes, in the craft shop and in other ways. This, of course, must be developed only as fast as the trained leaders are made available.

One of the major projects, started the second year with the sev-

enth grade and continued since whenever a new group of students come into the high school, is the making of a leisure scrapbook by each student in which he will collect the information and souvenirs of his various leisure activities.

This will be a hand-made book, in most cases, perhaps out of ply-wood with a decorated cover, and arranged so that pages can be added as necessary. The students keep maps of their state, pictures of activities, clippings, hike routes, menus, in this book, so that in the end of the school experience they will have an invaluable book made up of practical information that is usable to them in the leisure interest they have developed. If the main interest of a student centers around photography, for example, this book should contain new



There are canoe trips on the Passaic River where many interesting birds are to be seen

formulae, ideas for newspapers and magazines, unusually good pictures he has taken or seen in magazines and so forth. This book will serve as an inventory of his accomplishments during his school period.

Pay-As-You-Go

Some expense is involved in the activities that are carried on. A conscious attempt is made to keep this expense at a minimum, but it is quite impossible to eliminate the expenses entirely. The policy has been adopted of asking the students to pay their own way as they go. In this way the project is not held back because of budgetary limitations. By planning the activities in advance the students can arrange their personal finances without undue misunderstanding on the part of parents. Ultimately, as the schools get into this type of activity as a regular part of their curriculum, adequate resources will have to be made available. There is no reason why money cannot be spent for this type of practical experience as well as for some of the questionable things now in the curriculum.

Parental Participation

An interesting sidelight on this whole plan is the relationships that have been developed with the parents of the students. Considerable parental interest was evidenced from the beginning in the projects carried on with the eleventh grade the first year. Later it developed that groups of students with their parents were doing some of the outdoor activities started in school. The result has been that the Parent-Teachers Association decided to make leisure time the theme of their meetings during one entire year. In this way parental interest was sponsored in the activities carried on by the students and consequently there was more of a possibility of carry-over into family life.

Conclusions to Date

This experiment has not been in operation for a sufficient length of time to enable any final conclusions to be reached. There are, however, several interesting and significant indications that are worth recording. There is one question that is bound to arise in connection with leisure-time activities and that is whether or not young people, or any persons for that matter, can be taught to enjoy themselves and use their leisure construc-

tively. There are those who claim that when one tries to train for leisure it ceases to exist.

On the basis of experience to date several questions stand out in this connection.

1. Students have often contended that they are *not* interested in a given activity only to find after they have tried it that there is a real appeal.

A good example of this is the way in which interest developed in the making of Christmas cards. When the class leader first asked the group if they would like to make some of their own cards there was a cool reaction from a large number of the group. However, after one demonstration as to what could be done the interest mounted rapidly and practically every member of the group wanted to make cards. Later there was distinct evidence that an interest in photography came out of the project.

2. The students are learning a great deal of practical information they would not have learned otherwise. Many did not know how to go sea fishing, or where the state parks were, or where one could rent a canoe reasonably. Subsequent investigations have shown that the students and their parents use this information.

3. There are definite carry-overs into the subject-matter fields. Students learn English by writing for their school paper about the recreational trips. There is real functional geography in learning about the recreational facilities available in the county, state and nation. There is good practice in arithmetic figuring mileage, food costs, etc.

4. The students like the activities. They enjoy the trips and the projects on campus which augurs well for the carry-over value into later life. Only time will tell whether the hobbies and skills learned under these conditions will form the ground work for constructive use of leisure time later on in life. However, there is good reason to suspect that they will.

5. It is evidently possible to start a program such as outlined above without drastic changes in schedules or new additions to the staff. If, as educators seem to agree, it is a major responsibility of the school to train for constructive use of leisure time, then some plan such as this must be developed if this responsibility is to be met.

Time Out for Living is the title of a 662 page book by Dr. Partridge and Catherine Mooney which is just off the press. The volume is designed to help high schools train the youth of America to make a constructive use of their leisure time.

A Literature "Shower" for Service Men

By CHARLES H. ENGLISH

"SPENDING eight hours of strenuous physical and mental activity each day, the men in camp welcome the opportunity to use some of their leisure in reading books and magazines, but we don't begin to have enough to go around."

This statement by a Morale Officer was the cause of the inauguration of the Literature Shower of Philadelphia by the Playground and Recreation Association. During the week of March 17th, Army trucks began hauling to near-by camps and the Navy Yard approximately 200,000 books and magazines that had been carefully sorted and bundled from huge piles of reading material collected by school children and from citizens generally

during the previous two weeks' campaign.

One hundred and ninety-seven public and parochial schools held "showers." Over a hundred trucking concerns each donated the services of a truck and driver to make the collections. An Armory was secured as headquarters, and here nearly two hundred volunteer club women did the sorting and bundling. Children's books were sent to the city libraries, and periodicals and books not used for camps were given to the Salvation Army. A down-town vacant store was used as a depository convenient for shoppers and business employees. A women's motor corps picked up collections from individual homes,

A twenty-two foot pile containing 38,000 magazines to be shipped to near-by camps

(Continued on page 61)

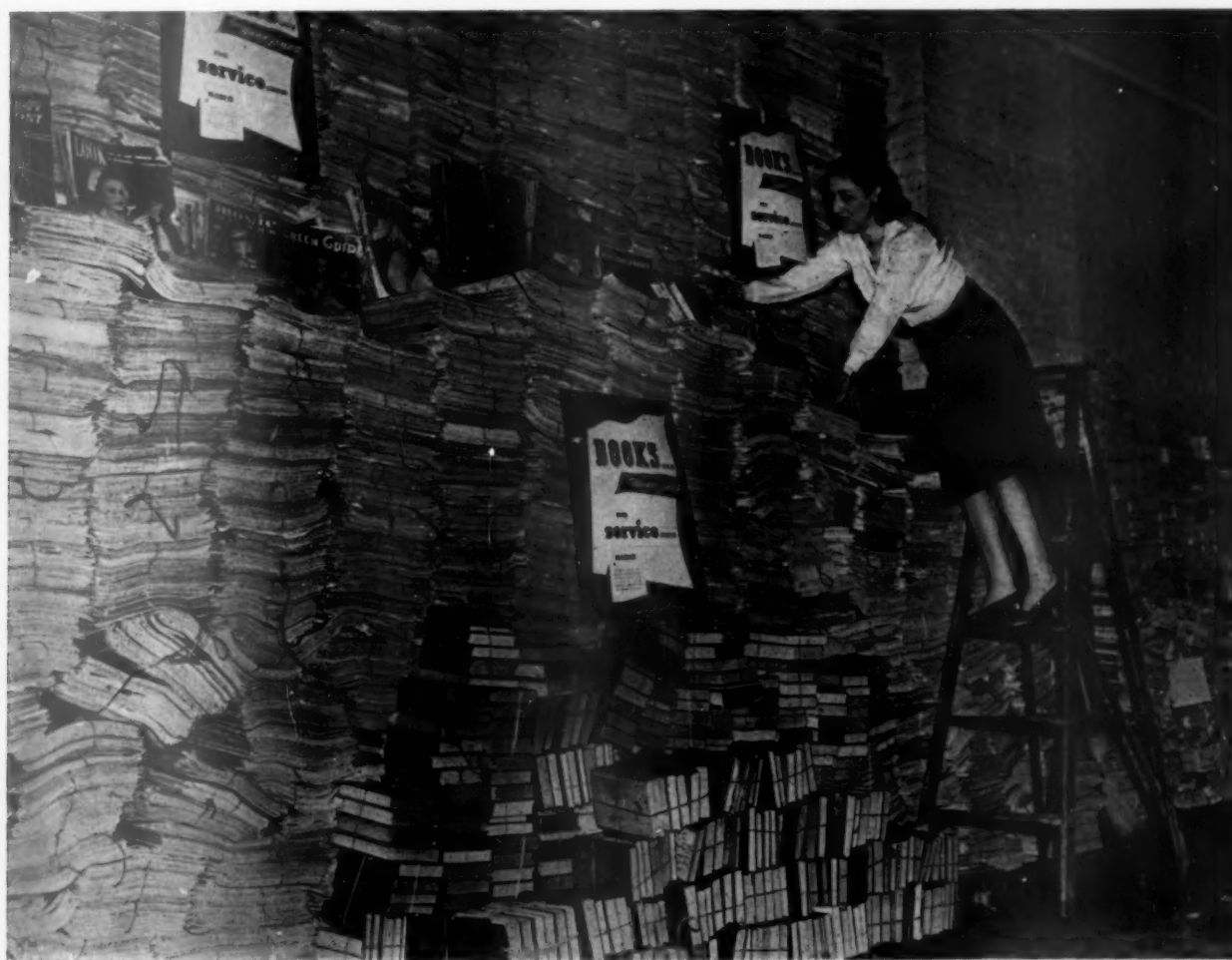


Photo by Philadelphia Inquirer

What They Say About Recreation

"THE WORK which a recreation commission carries on is of vital importance not only to the community but to the state and the nation. So long as youth, and older people too, can find wholesome relationships with their friends and neighbors through recreation, democracy need have no fear."—Hon. *Dwight H. Green*, Governor of Illinois.

"Recreation should be regarded and conducted as an educational and cultural force. This, of course, is merely saying that it should be recognized for what it really is. The character of the American people and of their civilization will no doubt depend as much on recreation as on education."—*George S. Counts*.

"Democracy sets high value upon the attainment of human happiness as a basis for judging the effectiveness of social life."—From *The Purposes of Education in American Democracy*.

"Even more than the necessity for increased vigilance of civil enforcement is the need for the prompt provision of suitable recreation facilities in the communities about military and industrial concentrations. It has been amply demonstrated that wherever serious efforts have been made to provide adequate, wholesome recreation, this has been much more effective than repressive measures."—*Bailey B. Burritt*, Chairman, Executive Council, The Community Service Society.

"Let us all be able to lose gracefully and to win courteously; to accept criticism as well as praise; and last of all, to appreciate the attitude of the other fellow at all times."—*James Naismith* in *Basketball*.

"We believe that, especially at this time when we are looking to national defense, it is important to stress the fact that no nation is truly prepared to defend its future unless it can point with pride to the provision which it makes for the welfare, happiness and education of its children."—*George J. Hecht*, President, The Parents' Institute.

"National defense requires not only the provision of tanks, guns and airplanes, but also the maintenance and up-building of citizen morale. The essence of morale in a democracy is physical health, mental stability, and social unity. Community recreation is now recognized as a vital force in building this kind of morale."—From *Westchester County Recreation Commission*.

"While it is more fun to win than to lose, more fun to play well, to make shots and strokes correctly than in bad form—it is really not vital whether we win, nor is it really important to play well. It is only important to play."—*John R. Tunis* in *Sport for Fun*.

"What can we Americans do, in a world made mad with war and fear, to keep our own national balance, when that balance may mean the difference between chaos and world order? . . . We can encourage in every way the use of leisure in non-commercial ways that are truly recreative. That means initiative in fun making, both private and public, as against the mass acceptance of being amused by others."—*Wilfred H. Crook*, Bucknell University Junior College.

"It has often been said that the gang in itself is not bad. It is only bad when it is left to itself in a delinquency area."—*Frederick M. Thrasher*.

"The homes, the schools, and the churches are the citadels of civilizations. They are social institutions common to both the country and the city. They are what holds America or any nation together. To lose faith in them is to lose faith in humanity. Without them civilized society would not get very far."—*Alfred G. Arvold*.

"When the spirit of man goes out into matter, whether it be the spirit of a farmer, or a worker, or an artist, or an athlete, I am convinced that some kind of religious function is being performed."—*Henry A. Wallace* in *The Price of Freedom*.

Ensuring Safety in the Use of Playground Facilities



By H. D. CORBIN
Director, Lafayette Playground
Brooklyn, New York

THE PLAYGROUND, it must be remembered, differs from the school situation in that it does not have such direct control over the child in so far as instruction is concerned, while it is confronted with the omnipresent problem of restraining the occasional attendant from breaking down the rules which are known and observed by the children who come regularly to the ground. Moreover, the playground has the problem of handling varied age groups with little opportunity to classify them by means of suitable tests before they take part in competitive play. What it has invariably done has been to classify the groups according to age or height—by themselves inadequate criteria. A plan of medical examination for those entering competitive athletics and closer supervision would help materially in reducing hazards. Simplified motor ability and skill tests can be used to good advantage.

The administration of an adequate playground program centers about leadership. No matter how well planned the area or how expensive and elaborate the equipment, it still remains the responsibility of able leadership to transfer the area from a possible breeding place of accidents to a reasonably safe place within which to spend one's free time.

An often overlooked factor is that of safe crossing of streets in going to and from the playground. In addition to group instruction, the cooperation of the police department and the home can do much toward minimizing accidents from this cause. It is also very important to plan in the space available for play areas sufficiently large to accommodate the chosen activities without constituting a hazard. With the recommended number and type of apparatus continually changing, the planning of play-

There is a definite need for safe planning and for education in safety in all areas of recreation, particularly in playground management. The playground is a comparatively small area in which large groups of children assemble, and the ensuing intensive activity coupled with the large numbers involved tends to increase the possibility of accidents. Although it is important to recognize the fact that many physical activities are in themselves hazardous, it is even more important to realize that the majority of accidents can be prevented and, when they do occur, the extent of the injury involved can be minimized.

grounds must make allowance for this phase of playground administration.

In large cities in which land is at a premium, playground planners all too often arrange pieces of equipment close together, and as a result cause dangerous situations. This problem of conflicting play areas must be faced and an optimum adjustment made. Where the area is limited it is advisable to reduce the number of pieces of equipment in an effort to eliminate hazards.

Certain areas, such as those in which swings and rings are located, can best be protected by rail guards. Painting or marking off the less dangerous areas will also be an aid toward reducing the probability of accidents. Moreover, the regulation baseball area should be protected by full size backstops and roped off to prevent the younger children or even careless older ones from getting into the path of the bat, ball, or runner. Adequate space allotment should be made to prevent a hard hit ball from going into an adjacent play area. Some provision should be made for other activities so that there will be less likelihood of accidents from faulty organization.

The problem of playground safety finally resolves itself to the safe use of the apparatus and facilities. Some suggestions are offered for the safe use of typical pieces of apparatus.

Safe Swinging *Suggestions for Playground Directors*

The swings should be surrounded by a guard or fence.

The use of baby swings

should be limited to children up to the age of six; large swings are for those over six.

Equipment should be oiled and tested regularly.

Chains are much safer for swings than ropes.

Rules for Children

Never stand or kneel on the seat of a swing, and do not swing sidewise.

Only one child at a time should occupy a swing.

Do not push or twist empty swings.

Stay away from moving swings.

When you decide to stop swinging, bring the swing to a gradual stop before getting off.

When you sit in the swing face in the same direction as all of the other children.

Do not wear skates when you swing.

Safe Sliding

Suggestions for Playground Directors

The small slides are for young children up to the age of five; the high slides are for older children.

The landing of the slide should be soft. Use either a mat, softened earth, or shavings.

See that cracks in the slide are clear of stones, splinters, or similar objects.

Check the slide regularly for any loosening of the structure.

Rules for Children

Use the steps of the slide to reach the top and not the slide itself.

Sit erect with your feet forward within the slide; there is no other safe position.

Make certain there is no one on the slide before you go down.

As you reach the bottom of the slide be on the alert and dig your toes into the landing pit.

Leave the slide as soon as you reach the bottom.

Safe Seesawing

Suggestions for Playground Directors

Inspect and, if necessary, tighten the seesaw bolts.

Look for any signs of cracking wood.

Make certain the handles are in place and are firm.

Lubricate the friction parts.

Rules for Children

Always remember that only two children can use the seesaw at one time.

In lowering the seesaw, touch the ground with the feet and do not let the seat bump the ground.

Balance the seesaw by facing the child opposite you as you sit on it.

Before getting off notify the child at the other end.

When you leave the seesaw, hold on to the board and gradually lower it so that your partner can get off safely.

Safe Skating

Suggestions for Playground Directors

No more than two skaters are allowed to hold hands.

Examine the rink for any cracks.

Any poles or protruding objects on the rink should be well padded.

Do not allow any trains or "snake" skating.

Do not permit bicycles or pushmobiles on the rink.

Rules for Children

Wait until you reach the playground before putting on your skates.

Do not speed on the rink.

Skate more slowly when you see someone in front of you.

Remember that stunts and trick skating are dangerous.

Bumping and pushing may cause a serious accident.

Skate around a group rather than attempt to cut in and out.

Keep your eyes open and your mind alert.

Safety on the Jungle Gym

Suggestions for Playground Directors

Give the children instruction in the safe use of the jungle gym.

Test the jungle gym for rigidity.

Do not allow more than a safe load—approximately twenty.

Examine the bars for any loose nuts or bolts.

Rules for Children

Hold on with a tight grip.

Make certain that your hands are dry.

Do not shake the jungle gym; someone may fall off.

Do not attempt risky stunts.

Always grasp the bars with both hands.

Pushing and shoving are more dangerous when you are off the ground.

Safety in Using the Bars

Suggestions for Playground Directors

An attendant should be present when this apparatus is in use.

The landing underneath the apparatus should be softened by loosening the earth or by using skid-proof mats or shavings.

Remove all apparatus showing any signs of being worn.

Restrict the use of the apparatus to those within designated age groups according to the piece of apparatus in use.

Rules for Children

Your hands should be thoroughly dry. French chalk or powder will help.

Keep a firm grip at all times.

Do not take unnecessary risks.

Before starting a difficult stunt, make sure a leader is near by.

Stay away from the apparatus when you are not using it.

Safe Wading

Suggestions for Playground Directors

Keep the pool free from debris.

Do not allow glass objects near the pool.

A skin disease is reason enough for exclusion from the pool.

Test the water periodically, using chlorinated lime or a similar chemical.

Require every child before entering the wading pool to pass through a one per cent solution of hypochlorite of lime.

Rules for Children

Do not take toys or breakable objects with you into the pool.

Do not enter the pool when you are overheated.

Leave the pool when you begin to feel cold.

Do not jump or dive in the pool.

Do not run, splash, or push other children.

Sand Box Safety

Suggestions for Playground Directors

Clean the sand box at least once daily and whenever conditions warrant it.

Make certain the sand is thoroughly dry before allowing children in it.

Strain the sand periodically. Bottles and sharp articles should never be allowed as playthings.

Rules for Children

Do not drink or eat in the sand box.

It is dangerous to throw sand in or outside of the box. You may throw it into someone's eyes.

Do not jump in the box.

The sand box is used by others as well as by yourself, so be considerate.

Do not take pointed or breakable toys with you in the box.

General Suggestions

Of great importance to the maintenance of safety on the playground is the daily inspection of the movable apparatus. This should be followed by a more thorough monthly inspection and the oiling of all friction portions of the apparatus. Damaged apparatus, no matter how slightly affected, should be immediately removed from the reach of any potential user.

Keeping the ground free from encumbrances and litter is an important responsibility. The filling up of worn spots as well as the leveling of raised portions should be given immediate attention. Puddles of water should be swept away to eliminate slipping and make possible more rapid evaporation. Active play should be forbidden until the ground is thoroughly dry.

All accidents, no matter how minor they may appear at the time, should be followed by a complete report stating among other things the exact place of occurrence, how the accident happened, the time and day, the activity being engaged in, the part of the body injured, and the extent of the injury, the reports of two witnesses (the person injured and the director), the type of first aid or treatment given, and by whom. The accident reports should then be tabulated on a monthly basis according to area and type. This should be followed by special efforts to make the areas in which the largest number of accidents occurred more safe. Among the steps to be taken should be the elimination of hazards if any are present, added instruction in the safe use of equipment, and closer supervision.

Whether or not the advice and information given on the playground is used to good advantage depends largely on the attitudes inculcated during the teaching process. Is the child sympathetic to the aims of the playground director? Are the whys and wherefores clear to him? Is sufficient challenge offered for the acquisition of necessary skills rather than the reduction of vital accident statistics? These and similar questions must be adequately answered if we are to expect a degree of success.

Other aids conducive to the development of the right attitude toward safety follow:

Instruction in the "why" of the safe use of equipment

(Continued on page 56)

Of "Singing America"

THE ACCOMPANIMENT Edition of "Singing America" will be available about April 15th through the National Recreation Association at \$1.50 a copy. This handsomely bound, 190-page edition contains, besides the melodies, choral parts and words, the complete piano accompaniments for all of the 120 songs in the Vocal Edition and, in addition, new accompaniments for *Home on the Range*, *Loch Lomond* and eight others of the old favorites known by everyone. In most community song books the only "accompaniments" given for these favorite tunes is the alto, tenor and bass vocal parts, but in this new book the distinctive qualities of the piano that make it so effective an accompanying instrument are given free play. All the piano parts, throughout the book, are designed to have the utmost influence toward arousing and supporting the singing spirit in groups of people, and to be simple enough for the ordinary pianist.

Special care and pleasure have been taken also in making each accompaniment true to the distinctive characteristics of its own song, in national or traditional style and in rhythm as well as in harmony. *Dixie*, *The Shuckin' of the Corn*, *Cielito Lindo* and many another gay song come fully alive when treated so, with a character and zest that many people had not known before; and so do *My Old Kentucky Home*, *Drink to Me Only with Thine Eyes*, the newly popular *Walking at Night* and many another beautiful lyrical song. The varying rhythms and styles of the fourteen Latin-American songs in the book, being less familiar, had to be learned from South American singers and musicians living in New York. The composers' own accompaniments to the *Prayer* from "Hansel and Gretel," the Brahms waltz-song, *In Wood Embower'd*, the Gilbert and Sullivan, Mozart, Wagner, and other songs or choruses of the Great Companions bring these fine but warmly human expressions "home" to everyone who likes music.

Full directions for the eight singing dances are given in this edition.

The Vocal Edition of "Singing America" cost-

The Vocal Edition of "Singing America," the popular collection of songs from all the Americas compiled by A. D. Zanzig, is in its third large printing. And now comes the announcement of an accompaniment book, and of four records containing twenty-three typical songs from this collection. The accompaniment book and the records will enable home, school, camp and community groups to learn more readily and adequately to sing the songs.

ing twenty-five cents, provided fully for the singers. Now the man or woman or boy or girl at the piano is also well equipped. He or she will be pleased also by the size of the book, 9"x12", by its remaining widely open at whatever page is wanted, and by its colorful, artist-designed cover.

Records Available

There are now available four records on which twenty-three of the songs from "Singing America" have been recorded. On one of the records there are five songs; on each of the other three records, six.

RECORD 27279. This record contains the following: *El-a-noy*—a pioneer song from the Ohio River; *Lonesome Valley*—a spiritual from Kentucky; *Shuckin' of the Corn*; *At the Gate of Heaven*—a lullaby which came to New Mexico from the Pyrenees in Spain; *To Bethlehem, Singing*—from Puerto Rico; and *Night Herding Song*—one of the most beautiful of cowboy songs.

RECORD 27280. *Boulé's Ball*—one of the songs brought to Canada by the voyageurs; *The Turtle Dove*—one of the most beautiful versions of this farewell love song, some of them recurring in the United States as well as in Canada; *La Cuisiniere*—French Canadian; *Tutú Marambá*—a lullaby and one of the best known folk songs of Brazil; *Santo San Juanito*—a type of Ecuadorian Indian song; and *From Yon Mountain Verdant*—a haunting tune which takes one to the lonely heights of Peru among the Inca people.

RECORD 27281. *Que Lejos Estoy*—a song known and loved in many parts of South America as well as in Mexico; *Vidalita*—a typical song of the Argentine cowboy; *Uy! Tara La La*—very gay Mexican music; *Cuba*; *Flowing River (Rio Rio)*—one of the best known and loved of the graceful Chilean songs.

RECORD 27282. *Walking at Night*—a favorite Czech song; *Vagabond's Song*—a beautiful example of the folk tunes of the Catalonian people; *Little Grove, All in Green*—a song reflecting the

(Continued on page 57)

The Midwest College Outing Conference

FROM THE COLLEGES and universities of Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa, and Missouri, there will gather at McCormick's Creek State Park on May 10th and 11th a group representing both students and faculty members. The occasion will be the first Midwest College Outing Conference, and for this interesting get-together of college students and instructors three group camps have been reserved in one of Indiana's most scenic state parks.

Registration will begin at 9:00 A. M. on Saturday, after which, time will be available for a hike along the canyon—that long waited for stroll into the wood which will be so freshly scented with the piquant aroma of spring's new earthiness and abundantly hued with the waxy dogwood and redbud blossoms etched against the feathery array of greens that so dominate the wood. And there will be a visit to Indiana's most popular park museum where Junior, the owl, wisely surveys all newcomers from his ledge over the fireplace.

Program and organization meetings will be held during the two-day conference at the new Redbud Shelter and in the large amphitheater near the group camps. An evening barbecue at Redbud Shelter will be a highlight of the conference. State Park naturalists, under the direction of Howard Michaud, Chief Naturalist for Indiana, will be available to interpret the interesting features of the park area.

The outing, an outgrowth of the Midwest Hiking Conference held last November at Spring Mill State Park in southern Indiana, is being planned by a committee of which Dr. S. C. Staley, Director of the School of Physical Education, Illinois University, is chairman. The Midwest Hiking Conference drew an attendance of over two hundred persons from the hiking clubs of Evansville, Louisville, Cincinnati, St. Louis, Chicago and Indianapolis. Also in attendance were the recreation executives of Chicago, Cincinnati, and St. Louis; park executives from Michigan, Missouri, Illinois, and Indiana; and college professors from the Univer-

By GARRETT G. EPPLEY
Associate Recreational Planner
Region II, National Park Service



Courtesy Indiana Conservation Department

It is in beautiful surroundings such as these that the meetings of the Midwest Hiking Conference are to be held

sities of Purdue, Indiana and Illinois, and Indiana State Teachers College. The hiking conference was sponsored by the Indiana Conservation Department with the cooperation of Region II of the National Park Service.

Pertinent recommendations for the promotion of hiking were made at the Midwest Hiking Conference by committees representing the park naturalists, recreation executives, park executives, college and university personnel and hiking clubs. Alfred H. Wyman, Executive Secretary of the St. Louis Park and Playground Association, was elected President, and the following committee chairmen were placed on the executive committee:

V. K. Brown, Director of Recreation, Chicago Park District; S. C. Staley, Illinois University; Charles A. DeTurk, State Park Director for Indiana; Jack Kramb, President of the Ohio Valley Hikers' Association; and Carlyle Chamberlain, Vice-President of the Louisville Municipal Hiking Club. The writer, representing Region II of the National Park Service, was asked to serve as adviser. Mr. Wyman, the president, is Director of the Missouri Walk-Ways Association, an outing organization composed of four hundred and fifty members. Already Mr. Wyman is planning a second annual conference for next fall. The Association has a Board of Directors composed of the presidents of its member clubs.

The representatives from the Indiana Conservation Department, Missouri Park Board, Michigan Conservation Department, Cook County Forest Preserve, and the National Park Service, all of whom participated at the Spring Mill conference, feel that the initiation and stimulation of hiking and outing activities is one of the best



Courtesy Indiana Conservation Department

This owl makes his home in the Junior Museum at McCormick's Creek State Park

representatives from each of the states in which colleges will be represented.

Speaking of the fact that selective service officials have laid down the general policy that every draftee, after due conditioning, must be able to walk from fifteen to twenty miles with fifty pounds on his back, Howard Braucher asks this question: "In defense time, is it not particularly appropriate to develop tramping clubs in the various recreation systems? . . . Dr. John H. Finley, who for so many years was very active in the leadership of the recreation movement was him-

self a world-famed walker. Each year, on his birthday, it was his custom to walk around Manhattan Island, starting after midnight and walking through the day and into the following night. Just as many cities have dedicated playgrounds to Joseph Lee, so others may wish to establish John H. Finley walking groups."

So successful was the Midwest Hiking Conference held last November in Southern Indiana that a Midwest College Outing Conference has been called for May 10-11 at McCormick's Creek State Park. As a result of this event it is hoped that college students and faculty members will avail themselves more fully of State Park areas and near-by natural environments for recreational purposes. It is further hoped that this particular conference will prove the springboard for individual state conferences to be held next year in a State Park or Federal Recreation Area.

mediums for obtaining the most beneficial and enjoyable use of park and forest areas. The recreation executives state that there is no recreation more invigorating, more inspiring—yet more restful—than that of nature recreation. Park naturalists cannot find sufficient time to explore the interesting features of any natural area. Hikers—you can't keep them indoors when they can get out into the open spaces!

For the College Outing Conference, the committee of which Dr. Staley is chairman is being expanded to include two

Art and the People

GREAT WORKS of art have a way of breaking out of private ownership into public use. They belong so obviously to all who love them—they are so

clearly the property not of their single owners but of all men everywhere—that the private rooms and houses where they are hung become in time too narrow for their presence. The true collectors are the collectors who understand this—the collectors of great paintings who feel that they can never truly own, but only gather and preserve for all who love them, the treasures they have found.

But though there have been many public gifts of art in the past, the gift of this National Gallery dedicated to the entire nation and containing a considerable part of the most important work brought to this country from the continent of Europe has necessarily a new significance. It signifies a relation—a new relation here made visible in paint and in stone—between the whole people of this country and the old inherited tradition of the arts.

And we shall remember that these halls of beauty, this creation of a great American architect, combine the classicism of the past with the convenience of today.

In accepting this building and the paintings it contains, the people of the United States accept a part in that inheritance for themselves. They accept it for themselves not because this gallery is given to them—though they are thankful for the gift. They accept it for themselves because, in the past few years, they have come to understand that the inheritance is theirs and that, like other inheritors of other things of value, they have a duty toward it.

Discovery by the People

There was a time when the people of this country would not have thought that the inheritance of art belonged to them or that they had responsibilities to guard it. A few generations ago, the people of this country

Extracts from the address delivered by President Roosevelt on March 17th in accepting, for the nation, the National Art Gallery at Washington

were taught by their writers and by their critics and by their teachers to believe that art was something foreign to America and to themselves, something imported from another continent and from an age which was not theirs, something they had no part in, save to go to see it in a guarded room on holidays or Sundays.

But recently, within the last few years, they have discovered that they have a part. They have seen in their own town, in their own villages, in school houses, in postoffices, in the back rooms of shops and stores, pictures painted by their sons, their neighbors—people they have known and lived beside and talked to.

They have seen, across these last few years, rooms full of painting by Americans, walls covered with the paintings of Americans—some of it good, some of it not good, but all of it native, human, eager and alive—all of it painted by their own kind in their own country and painted about things they know and look at often and have touched and loved.

The people of this country know now, whatever they were taught or thought they knew before, that art is not something just to be owned, but something to be made; that it is the act of making and not the act of owning which is art. And knowing this they know also that art is not a treasure in the past or an importation from another country, but part of the present life of all the living and creating peoples—all who make and build; and, most of all, the young and vigorous peoples who have made and built our present wide country.

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Symbols of Human Spirit

It is for this reason that the people of America accept the inheritance of these ancient arts. Whatever these paintings may have been to men who looked at them a generation back—today they are not only works of art. Today they are the symbols

of the human spirit and of the world the freedom of the human spirit made—a world against which armies now are raised and countries overrun and men imprisoned and their work destroyed.

To accept, today, the work of German painters such as Holbein and Durer and of Italians like Botticelli and Raphael, and of painters of the low countries like Van Dyck and Rembrandt, and of famous Frenchmen, famous Spaniards—to accept this work today on behalf of the people of this democratic nation is to assert the belief of the people of this nation in a human spirit which now is everywhere endangered and which, in many countries where it first found form and meaning, has been rooted out and broken and destroyed.

To accept this work today is to assert the purpose of the people of America that the freedom of the human spirit and human mind which has produced the world's great art and all its science—shall not be utterly destroyed.

Seventy-eight years ago, in the third year of the War Between the States, men and women gathered here in Washington to see the dome above the capitol completed and the bronze Goddess of Liberty set upon the top. It had been an expensive and laborious business, diverting money and labor from the prosecution of the war, and certain citizens found much to criticize. There were new marble pillars in the Senate wing and a bronze door for the central portal and other such expenditures and embellishments. But Lincoln, when he heard the criticisms, answered: "If people see the capitol going on, it is a sign we intend the Union shall go on."

We may borrow the words for our own. We too intend the Union shall go on. We intend it shall go on, carrying with it the great tradition of the human spirit which created it.

The dedication of this gallery to a living past, and to a greater and more richly living future, is the measure of the earnestness of our intention that the freedom of the human spirit shall go on.

"It is a strange moment for opening a national museum of art," says Anne O'Hare McCormick in *The New York Times* for March 22nd, "yet what event could be better timed to meet and counteract the despair with which civilized peoples contemplate the savagery of war?"

"Washington's new museum is perhaps the most beautiful gallery of art in the world. From the magnificent rotunda in the middle every vista is serene and noble. The paintings and sculptures, collected in rooms as calm and luminous as a Vermeer interior, are only in a few instances the masterpieces of the artists who produced them. In a dozen vast galleries, including the Metropolitan, there are more and greater single works of genius. But nowhere else are they shown in this clear daylight, and the effect of color in the Alba Madonna, for instance, and in the Raphael portrait of Bindo Altoviti on the opposite wall, is so dazzling that you perceive that you have been looking all your life at the dim shadows of pictures. Though you are familiar with many of the canvasses in the glorious parade of the Italian schools, you find that you have never really seen them before. The Rembrandts glow with an astonishing luster.

Beauty That Endures

"But the gallery itself, incomparable as it is, the collection itself, splendid as it is, are less impressive than the effect they produce on the visitors. Every day this week the rooms have been crowded. It is a place full of life—glowing on the walls, milling in the corridors. . . . Almost an oasis of happiness; not for years has this observer seen so many happy faces as those who looked upon Sesiderio da Settignano's 'Bust of a Little Boy'—the eternal little boy, still touching and expectant after the wars of nearly a half century.

"Andrew Mellon's Medicean gesture in giving this museum to the nation may have been a signal that an epoch was ended. Or it may be the beginning of an epoch. In a way it signalizes our maturity as strikingly as the heavy sense of world responsibility that begins to oppress the American people.

"The folly and the glory of man meet at the door where one turns from the picture of war to the masterpieces of human genius, and one knows that they represent the Italy, the Germany, the England and the America that endures. One knows, too, that no people can enjoy the increment of civilization without bearing the common burden and paying the price of maintaining its values. 'I feel cleansed and steadied,' said a well-known sculptor leaving the gallery the other day. 'Now I know it's worth fighting for.'" Used by permission of *The New York Times*.

Miniature Trailside Museums

By DAVID DAMON

VISITORS to several Iowa parks last summer were pleased to find that the Iowa Conservation Commission was again providing free naturalist services and nature booklets. Visitors to Dolliver Memorial State Park found, in addition to these services, two interesting trailside museums.

These museums were not the type of structures one usually associates with the word "museum." Perhaps "glorified bulletin boards" would be a better description for these structures. As a matter of fact, the museums were glass-fronted bulletin boards upon which were displayed various plant and animal specimens with short, simple descriptions of each. No stuffed birds or mammals were exhibited. There was never a lack of other interesting material; in fact, many worthy specimens could not be exhibited because of a lack of space. Portions of the exhibits were changed at intervals so as to make them more timely and of greater interest to those who visited the park frequently.

The trailside museums were instituted as an experiment. The expense was negligible, in this case, since the bulletin boards were already available. As a display medium these structures were very satisfactory although each had certain drawbacks limiting somewhat their usefulness. However, in spite of the minor physical shortcomings of these bulletin boards to serve as trailside museums, the experiment itself was far more successful than had been anticipated. It was estimated that

If a bona fide trailside museum is out of the question, why not have a glorified bulletin board?

An attractive type of trailside museum at the South Lodge Picnic Area. Mr. Damon suggests, however, that the case is too small and that seats are unnecessary.



over ninety per cent of all visitors to these particular areas inspected the museums, and some individuals appeared to read every label. Many would ask for more information on some of the

specimens exhibited. Voluntary requests for more information provided an excellent opportunity for the naturalist to extend the discussion to other related topics. One of the museums served also as the starting point for scheduled nature tours.

If one should "tune in" on a farm family (the majority of visitors to this park are rural folks) as they inspect the exhibit, he would hear such comments as these: "Oh look, there's a snake like we found in the yard. Jimmy said it was a Copperhead and killed it, but this says it is a milk snake, one of our harmless and most valuable snakes." "Oh Mamma, there's the kind of big moth we found on the porch last summer and didn't know what it was. It's a Luna Moth and

the caterpillars eat leaves of hickory, walnut and other forest trees." "Well, this is the first time I knew young clams lived awhile under the skin of fishes."

This family learns, in an easy way, a few facts about some of the familiar plants and animals—plants and animals, which, because of their commonplaceness, had been taken for granted and not suspected of having anything interesting attached to their past history, habits or life cycle.

For those who plan to build a trailside museum, a few suggestions may be

in order. The type of structure may vary with the park and the funds available, but it should lean towards simplicity. The museum will serve best if placed in an area frequented by the majority of the visitors. A case four feet high by six feet long and fastened to posts is very practical and easy to construct. The glass front should swing open (preferably divided in the center) and it should be far enough in front of the mounting board to permit the convenient display of the largest specimen anticipated. A soft composition type of wall-board makes an excellent mounting board. For some trailsides museums it may be desirable to have glass shelves, at least in the lower portion.

Whenever possible, avoid facing the exhibit to the south or west unless it will be in the shade at all hours. The direct sunlight fades the delicate colors of many specimens and green plants may wilt rapidly. A special effort should be made to make the case insect-proof. It is practically impossible to shut out museum pests, but if the case is reasonably tight it is not too expensive to keep an insect fumigant (such as paradichlorobenzene) in it. Certainly it should be tight enough to keep out spiders and ants. It is most discouraging to see a big black ant chewing off the wings of a fine Luna Moth.

For future trailsides museums in Iowa parks a two-faced type has been suggested. That is to say, both sides would be used for exhibition purposes. If desired, one side might be very shallow and used for the posting of printed material only. A small roof over the case reduces the chance of rain water entering and staining the exhibit.

As to the exhibit itself, it should go without saying that neatness is paramount. The insects should be properly mounted, the butterflies and moths properly spread, the shells and stones well-cleaned, and green plants put in a can or jar of water and discarded as soon as they begin to wilt. The labels should be neatly printed or typed, not lengthy, simple, and Latin names omitted unless there is a good reason to use them. In most cases it is probably advisable to change portions of the exhibits from time to time. And last but not least, *don't clutter up the exhibit with too many specimens* no matter how interesting they may be to

The author warns against certain technical mistakes in construction. If, for example, the glass front is too close to the mounting board, the size of the material to be exhibited will be limited. Moreover, it should not be necessary to remove the entire mounting board in order to make changes in the exhibits. Mr. Damon, who worked with the Iowa Conservation Commission as a park naturalist in Dolliver Memorial State Park, will be glad to answer questions about the museums. His address is 724 Sixth Street, Ames, Iowa.

you. John Public comes to the park for recreation. The trailsides museum should be a part of his recreation—not a chore. Therefore, show Mr. Public some consideration when you select your specimens for exhibition.

A well-constructed and well-maintained trailsides museum is a source of

knowledge and pleasure to the park visitor and an able assistant to the Park Naturalist.

The Union County, New Jersey, Park Commission announces the opening, on May third, of a trailsides museum which will provide new opportunities for nature recreation for the residents of Union County. The museum, in the establishment of which five county nature organizations are cooperating, will be located in the Watchung Reservation. Present plans call for the opening of a building at the Commission's Nursery on Saturdays and Sundays between the hours of 2:00 and 5:00.

The five cooperating organizations—the Elizabeth Nature League, the Roselle Park and Watchung Nature Clubs, the Westfield Bird Club, and the Plainfield Mineralogical Society—will cooperate with the Commission by sharing the responsibility for providing exhibits and by aiding in the supervision of the museum during the hours it is open to the public. From May to October each group will have charge of the museum for a four-week period, and members of the club in charge will be on hand to answer questions regarding the exhibits and assume responsibility for the operation of the museum.

In addition to a semi-permanent exhibit to be arranged by members of the various clubs who have been appointed to serve on a Trailsides Committee, the different groups will take turns in preparing an exhibit of nature objects native to the County and appropriate to the season during which they are being displayed. Nature hobbyists throughout the County have been invited to help the committee by loaning collections of shells, minerals, birds' eggs and nests, insects and similar objects for special weekly displays.

It is expected that additional nature organizations will accept the invitation of the Park Commission to share in the trailsides museum project.

Radio and the Farm Home

WHAT RADIO can do to improve farm life is almost incalculable. Lessening the provincialism which comes with isolation, the radio broadens the outlook of the farm family and brings entertainment and information about local, state, national, and international events to the remotest farm homes. Young people, particularly, can get suggestions in recreation and entertainment which will enable them to introduce valuable programs into the organizations to which they belong. Advanced farm practices, weather and market reports, broadcasts on crop conditions, and information on the problems of farm and home fill the air at regular hours.

But radios are still not available to a great many rural families. When we realize that even in "prosperous" 1929, farm families in fifteen poorer states received an average gross income of only \$186 a year, we can understand why, even with the extension of power lines into rural areas, only two or three per cent of the 3,000,000 farm homes in these states have electricity. Even those families with electricity sometimes have needs more fundamental than a radio.

On the other hand, whole sections of the country in the south, southwest, and northwest are known as "dead spots." Only in the evening and at night in these areas does reception become good enough to bring in national chain programs. Day-time listeners are therefore dependent upon small local stations which are more of an aggravation and a nuisance than an asset. Even families with radios, therefore, keep them quiet rather than listen to the cheap material broadcast hour after hour under the direction of announcers who are ignorant of music, art, literature, national events, and the needs of farm people. Some state colleges of agriculture send out a variety of fine programs, but unfortunately many feel that the installation of additional studios is financially unjustified under present economic conditions.

Already local and state agencies, as well as national network leaders and other groups, are studying the needs of rural people, improving radio programs accordingly. The Federal government has a wide range of offerings directed toward the recreation, education, and entertainment

This article is based on material presented in a bulletin prepared by John Bradford in connection with his work in the rural field.

needs of the farm family. As economic factors permit, there will be an increase in the number of radio sets in rural districts. And as continued im-

provements are made in programs these sets will be more and more widely and wisely used.

Because of the growing importance of this medium it may be of interest to rural people to know some of the facts found in a nation-wide survey made last year by the Federal Communications Commission. There are 741 stations in the United States and only one hundred air lanes. To enable radio authorities to guide these stations along the radio highways without danger of head-on collisions and side-swiping interference, Congress created the first Federal Radio Commission in 1927, supplanting it with the Federal Communications Commission in 1934. It was during the week of March 6, 1938, that the Federal Communications Commission made its study of all programs broadcast by all American radio stations. Investigators found that 64.45 per cent of all broadcasting was sustaining and that 34.55 was sponsored. What was the type of program? The following facts are revealing:

PROGRAM	Per cent of TOTAL TIME
<i>Music</i>	
Serious	6.48
Light	9.95
Popular	32.27
Other	3.75
Total.....	52.45
<i>Dramatic</i>	
General Drama	6.50
Comedy Scripts98
Children's Drama	1.63
Total.....	9.11
<i>Variety</i>	8.84
<i>Talks and Dialogues</i>	
Social and Economic	2.33
Literature, History and General Cultural...	2.34
Household and Others of Special Interest to Woman	2.68
Farm Management and Others of Special Interest to Farmers	1.67
Political31
Others	2.08
Total.....	11.41

PROGRAM	Per cent of TOTAL TIME
<i>News</i>	
News Reports	6.56
Sports Flashes96
Market, Crop and Weather Reports.....	1.03
Total.....	8.55
<i>Religious and Devotional</i>	5.15
<i>Special Events</i>	
Meetings and Occasions of Civic Interest...	.77
Sports	1.21
Other23
Total.....	2.21
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	2.28
GRAND TOTAL	100.00

To make the most effective use of radio it is necessary to study the programs of the various chains and of the local and state college and university stations, then plan a weekly schedule of the regular offerings to meet the interests of the family as a whole as well as of its individual members. Nation-wide observations and studies show that a great amount of time is wasted on radio reception because of failure to study the programs and then organize the material. With such a wealth of fine and interesting material available in all sections of the country there is no need to waste hours of valuable time before a radio grinding out the cheap, vulgar, and mediocre. Many radios are turned on and allowed to run for hours, promoting a great nervous strain, although no one could possibly be listening all that time. In many farm homes, however, one study indicates the average amount of time the radio is on as a period of five hours daily; it sets listening time "peaks" for farm people at 8:30 A. M., from 12 Noon to 1 o'clock, and from 8 to 10 P. M. A weekly program schedule can be easily arranged. Not much time is required to make out a family outline covering broad and interesting fields, and this system is fine practice in cooperative effort.

Radio clubs made up of small groups of farm people who follow some program regularly, are common in all sections of the country. The groups meet in farm homes, listen to the program, and discuss what has been presented. Thousands of farm folks follow America's Town Meeting of the Air (from Town Hall, New York City), which began its fifth season of weekly programs Thursday, October 5, 1939.

Children's programs are improving, and during the school season a wide variety is offered. Among programs of interest to children are: Romance of

Stamps; Vernon Crane's Story Book (fairy tales), Sunday over N.B.C.; Men Behind the Stars, Friday over C.B.S.; The Lone Ranger, Monday, Wednesday, Friday over M.B.S.; Nature Sketches (summer program from Rocky Mountain National Park); and story hour broadcasts by children's library workers. There are still 132,000 one-room schools in America, but the use of radio in rural schools is growing. Farm organizations and parent-teacher groups could aid greatly by assisting country schools in acquiring sets.

During the summer the fixed features of interest are outdoor concerts in parks and stadiums in New York, Boston, Toronto, Chicago, Philadelphia, St. Louis, San Francisco, Portland (Oregon), Los Angeles, Long Beach (California), and the Thursday night standard symphony hour on the Pacific coast. All year round there are programs of humor to suit any taste, among them the general favorites of Charlie McCarthy and Fibber McGee.

While it is not possible to include here an exhaustive list, the one given below suggests program possibilities for farm people.

Music

Voice of Firestone: Monday, N.B.C.
 Music Appreciation Hour: Friday, N.B.C.
 N.B.C. String Symphony, Frank Black: Saturday N.B.C.
 Symphonic Strings, Alfred Wallenstein: Saturday, M.B.S.
 Ford Sunday Evening Hour: Sunday, C.B.S.
 National Farm and Home Hour, Army and Navy Bands, 4H Monthly Hour: Monday through Saturday, N.B.C.
 New York Philharmonic Orchestra, John Barbirolli: Sunday, C. B.S.
 Lighter classical and popular music offerings include: Ginsberg and Old Heidelberg Orchestras, Chicago; Henry Webber's Orchestra, Chicago; Contented Hour; American Album of Familiar Music.

Drama

Lux Radio Theater, DeMille: Monday, C.B.S.
 Sherlock Holmes: Monday, Blue Network, N.B.C.
 Arch Obler's Plays: Saturday, N.B.C.
 Campbell Playhouse, Orson Welles: Sunday, N.B.C.

Reading, Current Events, Science, Education

Adventures in Reading: Monday, N.B.C.
 Information Please: Tuesday, Blue Network, N.B.C.
 Of Men and Books, Professor Frederick: Wednesday, C.B.S.
 America's Town Meeting of the Air: Thursday, N.B.C.
 This Wonderful World, Hayden Planetarium: Saturday, M.B.S.

(Continued on page 62)

It's Being Done in Nature Recreation

Captain Bill's Column of Nature-Grams

ADULT EDUCATION. "Enjoy Your World-Study!" is the title of the spring leaflet of the Buffalo Museum of Science. Intriguing informal classes two hours a week in such things as movie making, fossil collecting, animal sketching and flower arrangement. The sketching is under Ellsworth Jaeger, artist-author, recently appointed Assistant Curator of Education to succeed Professor William P. Alexander, a nature leader par excellence, who is retiring.

Biological History. "Biology in the Making," Emily Snyder. McGraw-Hill Company, New York, 539 pp. 1940. \$2.80. History of biology on the nature lore style.

Birds. The children at Frick Park in Pittsburgh are gathering seeds of trees and shrubs frequented by birds, wintering them in the frigidaire for a few weeks, planting them in trays and cups to be transplanted in the park next spring. Colfax school maintains its own feeding station in the park.

Birds. "Local Bird Refuges." Farmers Bulletin 1644, Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C. Five cents.

"Civilization, The Storehouse of," C. C. Furnas. Bureau of Publications, Columbia University, New York, 562 pp. \$3.25. An account of the earth's materials in nontechnical language.

"Conservation and Citizenship," Renner and Hartley. Heath Company, New York, 367 pp. \$1.60. Profitable reading.

"Conservation Education," Henry B. Ward, et al. National Wildlife Federation, 1212 Sixteenth St., N.W., Washington, D. C., 39 pp. Ten cents. A timely discussion by leaders who are reliable.

Dutch Elm Disease. In 1938, Scouts found 18,152 diseased trees; in 1939 the number was 10,786; and in 1940, 3,931—a reduction of 63.5 per cent. "A stitch in time save nine" applies here. A few years' discontinuance might cost millions.

Electrical Engineering. "Things a Boy Can Do with Electro-Chemistry," Alfred Morgan. Appleton-Century, New York, 198 pp. \$2.00. A simple introduction to simple apparatus and experiments.

"Environment, Life and," Paul B. Sears. Bureau of Publications, Columbia University, 175 pp. \$1.85. An interpretation of human interrelations. "The Control of Organisms," F. L. Fitzpatrick. Bureau of Publications, Columbia, 336 pp. \$2.75. The story of man's effort to control undesirable organisms.

Farming. "Plowing Through," Edwin W. Hurlinger. Morrow Company, New York, 59 pp. \$1.50. The story of the Negro in agriculture, dramatically told.

Flower Show. The Seventieth Annual New England Spring Flower Show of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society was held in Boston, March 17 to 22. There were 173 gardens of full-flowered June roses and a mammoth rose garden.

Invention. "Engines of Democracy—Inventions and Society in Mature America," Roger Burlingame. Scribner's Sons, New York, 606 pp. \$3.75. Really a history of the United States with a background of economics and sociology by the author of "March of the Iron Men."

Jamestown. The National Park Service announces that the first permanent English settlement will be preserved exactly as uncovered. Simple trailside exhibits will be installed adjacent to important building foundations. A museum will display cultural objects found during excavation. Dioramas of scenes will be installed. This policy is in direct contrast to the example of Eighteenth Century Williamsburg.

Mammals. "America Mammals," W. J. Hamilton, Jr. McGraw-Hill Company, 434 pp. \$3.75. A good reference book.

Nature Books. The Cleveland, Ohio, Museum of Natural History announces the publication of two new "Pocket Natural Histories": No. 8, "A Field Key to Our Common Birds," Irene T. Rorimer, illustrated by Roger Tory Peterson, \$1.50; No. 9, "The Geology of the Cleveland Region," Arthur B. Williams, \$.50.

Nature Camp for children (9 to 15 years) showing nature talent and aptitude is announced by the Worcester, Massachusetts, Natural History So-

ciety. This day camp will have three three-week sessions on a fourteen-acre wooded estate in W. Boylston under the leadership of a Clark University biology student. In a way, this is a revival of a pioneer effort of the society when through the efforts of its president, Dr. William H. Raymenton, it established a natural history camp for boys on Lake Quinsigamond from 1885 to 1912. Seventy boys enrolled the first summer. The camp was opened to teachers in 1905.

Nature Therapy. Butler Hospital, the oldest in Rhode Island (1844) cares for the mentally sick. Butler is a pioneer among mental hospitals in nature therapy. An anonymous gift of \$50,000 for instruction in the conservation of natural beauty and for an instructor trained in horticulture, botany and the natural sciences has made possible a nature program for the patients. Walks, round table conferences, and a museum of specimens gathered by patients, constitute a new method of treatment. They have their "picnic point" and wild flower garden. The "grotto" offers a path of peace and quiet in the natural woodlands. The primeval hemlocks in this ravine once harbored a black-crowned night heron colony. Perhaps it still does. This was the favorite rendezvous where the writer once led "normal students" afield. One of these students is now relaxing from tension with the help of the appreciation and knowledge gained a quarter of a century ago. Other patients cultivate their own gardens.

The department of occupational therapy in the conservation of natural beauty is under the direction of Mr. Arthur A. Almon, a graduate of Rhode Island State College. In these days of world confusion this Hospital is returning thirty per cent of its patients to their homes with an added avocational resource and an improved pattern of life.

News Letter. The executive committee of the Massachusetts State Rural Policy Committee will publish progressive reports concerning their work, starting January 1, Vol. I, No. 1. Dealing with conservation, forestry, camping, the town forest as an outdoor laboratory for teaching natural science, and land use planning, it brings together rural people, scientists, and the member of local, state and federal agencies. The objective is "the satisfactory living of rural people." This is the American way par excellence.

Park Naturalist. A new park naturalist service has just been inaugurated in the Dode County

Parks with headquarters in Miami, Florida. A. D. Barnes is Superintendent of Parks.

Park Naturalists. First conference, Berkeley, California, 1929—thirteen delegates; second conference, Grand Canyon, November 1940—fifty delegates. Thirty-five papers emphasized integration with history, archeology, geology, wildlife, and forestry. Education is living and not segmented information.

Photography. "Look at Life," Lynwood Chace, Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., New York, 178 wonderful photographs. \$3.50. This is the result of a life devoted to nature photography.

"Plants of the Bible," Harold N. Moldenke, N. Y. Botanical Garden, Bronx Park, New York, 135 pp. mimeographed, \$.25.

"Plants, the Story of Food," B. E. Dahlgren, Field Museum, Chicago, 32 pp. \$.25. Reproduction of series of murals of the museum with brief instructive material.

Plant Relations. Which of the following is the extra plant, i.e., does not belong in the night shade family? Tomatoes, white potatoes, sweet potatoes, petunias, tobacco, and peppers.

Radio—Telephone. 1915—voices from Washington, D. C., heard in Eiffel Tower, Paris, and in Honolulu; 1927—commercial service between United States and Britain; 1929—commercial service to ships at sea; 1941—entire world covered. When will this planet become a place where all people may carry on friendly conversation with all other people?

Railroads. "Handbook for Model Builders," Fun and Facts for the Amateur Railroader. Lionel Corporation, New York, 192 pp. \$1.00. Profusely illustrated with photographs and blue prints. An ideal way of getting acquainted with electricity. American Association of Model Railroads, 15 East 26th Street, New York, has a "Leaders' Manual" for heads of clubs.

Roadside Beautification. The Peninsula Plan Association, Summit County, Ohio, planned to make the Cuyahoga Valley the "Westchester County" of Ohio. Sign patrols with good judgment were appointed. They exempted highway department signs, private signs such as "No hunting" and "Farm produce for sale." No signs on private property were touched without permission of the property owners. Car crews, with routes mapped, cleaned up the 480 litter signs in less than one hour. Other communities please do likewise.

(Continued on page 58)

Building the Morale of Our Armed Forces

By CHARLES P. TAFT

THE ARMY is interested in what the soldiers find when they go to town because it has a tremendous amount to do with their morale and effectiveness as fighting men.

If a boy's family comes down to see him over a week end and has to sleep in the car or on the bench in a railroad station, he gets mad. If he goes to town himself for the week end and has to sleep on the floor in a warehouse, he is not so good when he gets back to camp.

Anybody would understand the necessity for driving out commercialized vice, but lack of simple facilities like toilets, sewers, a place to rest your "dogs," good food for a fair price, a pleasant place to get a glass of milk and a sandwich, all these have direct effect on the morale of the Army, even though they are relevant only to the off hours of the soldiers.

That is, in a sense, the negative approach.

Home Town Atmosphere

Affirmatively, the man in uniform is a long way from home, and to make him a good all-round soldier you need to maintain just as far as possible the ordinary home town atmosphere. You need to convince the families in the communities that these are boys just like their own, that they are longing for ordinary hospitality and social contacts. Most of them belong to churches at home, and they are used to going to the Y.M.C.A. or the Knights of Columbus. We want to establish the same sort of contacts outside the camps.

The camps are often in interesting areas. Sight-seeing is always of interest. There may well be opportunity for stimulating hobbies and even for some measure

The work of building morale in the new citizen army through recreation activities was described on March 10th by three officials on the National Radio Forum arranged by *The Evening Star*, Washington, D. C. Speakers included Frederick H. Osborn, Chairman, Joint Army and Navy Committee on Welfare and Recreation, Charles P. Taft, Assistant Co-ordinator of Defense Activities, Federal Security Administration, and Col. William H. Draper, Member, War Department General Staff. We are reproducing, through the courtesy of *The Evening Star*, the talk given by Mr. Taft.

methods for improving the service of commercial organizations and eliminating profiteering. Our agency is not going to operate these programs. The primary responsibility must rest on the local community itself. We expect to rely on existing local organizations or, where that is not possible, or not sufficient, we have been offered and have accepted the help of the United Service Organization, a group which is made up of the Y.M.C.A., the Y.W.C.A., Salvation Army, Jewish Welfare Board, the Travelers' Aid, and the National Catholic Community Service. They are going to operate most of our recreation buildings which we expect to build in defense areas if the community facilities bill passes Congress.

Housekeeping Important

The morale of the soldier is profoundly affected by the town housekeeping around the camp. We are trying to secure adequate building regulations and zoning regulations in order to prevent slums outside our gates.

It is our job to see to it that adequate sewers, water lines and sewage disposal plants are set up to prevent the ordinary sources of diseases. We shall have to do a good deal of ditching and mosquito destruction in order to eliminate malaria. Hospitals and clinics will be

(Continued on page 55)

of informal lectures, special movies and other semi-educational events. Soldiers need somebody to talk to who is not a superior officer, and their families need help when they come to town.

Recreation Includes All These

Recreation is a restricted term but for our purposes it includes all of these things that I have been describing.

It is even our job to set up

A Fortieth Anniversary Program

WITHOUT the vision and perseverance of the pioneers, who were, and still are, members of the Woman's Club of Reading, Pennsylvania, this industrial city might be without adequate playgrounds.

Forty years ago a few women had the foresight to plan for children's playgrounds and the courage to fight for their ideals. It was an uphill fight, that first decade, to finance the leadership and supplies necessary. Many people were unsympathetic, but that fact did not dampen the enthusiasm of the devoted women who thought in terms of the child as the community's most valuable asset.

The contribution of these women must not be forgotten nor must birthdays be allowed to slip by without celebration. In 1940, which marked the passing of four decades of playground progress, the Board of Recreation planned for a year of intermittent activities which would commemorate the accomplishments of the early leaders in the recreation movement and at the same time would focus attention on present and future needs of the tax-supported Department of Public Recreation.

Before the playground season opened the play leaders were given historical data on the local movement and mimeographed material containing the names of living pioneers. Bulletins on anniversary program suggestions were issued, and all leaders were urged to hold a program on their neighborhood playground inviting "old-timers" to take part in the affair.

During the middle of the playground season a city-wide fortieth anniversary program was held in one of the large park playfields. On this occasion three of the original founders of the playground movement told of their early experiences. Other speakers were members of the first board of recreation and the chairman of the present board, as well as a representative of the City Council. The playground band of one hundred and two pieces provided the music. The entire

The year 1900 was an important one for the children of Reading, for it was then the Woman's Club began its fight for playgrounds. Forty years later the city held an anniversary.

By THOMAS W. LANTZ
Superintendent of Public Recreation
Reading, Pennsylvania

park playfield was gayly decorated by the neighborhood parents' playground association.

The Pageant

The climax of the summer playground season was the production of a pageant entitled "Reading's First Forty." Approximately 750 children participated before an

audience of 8,000 people. The pageant, divided into ten episodes, was staged in the new memorial band shell located in City Park. In the episode relating to the period of 1900 to 1904, the Department of Public Recreation was fortunate in having three of the members of the Woman's Club at that time and pioneers for playgrounds take part in the pageant. They wore the dresses which they used in 1903 when a rummage sale was held to raise funds for leadership and supplies. A fine amplification system carried their voices to the four corners of the park, and the huge audience was delighted.

The pageant episodes were as follows:

EPISODE I—1900. Mrs. Frederick Spang read a paper on "Recreation for Boys" before the Civic Division of the Woman's Club.

EPISODE II—1903. Rummage sale of the newly formed Playground Division of the Woman's Club presided over by Mrs. John M. Stephens, Mrs. John C. Seltzer, and Miss Blanche A. Zieber. (These three original members of the Division appeared on the stage.)

EPISODE III—1904. Final program of the first playground, including a flag drill and a Maypole dance.

EPISODE IV—1910. Labor Day celebration at City Park with folk dances and dumbbell drill.

EPISODE V—1918. Wartime sing at City Park. (During this episode the audience joined in singing "Smiles," "Long, Long Trail," "Keep the Home Fires Burning," and "Till We Meet Again.")

(Continued on page 50)

How Does Your Garden Grow?

By MAY the soil has usually warmed up enough so that seeds of all annuals may be sown directly outdoors.

As soon as all danger of frost is past, tomato, pepper and other tender plants may be set out. Also bean, gourd, cucumber and other seed may be sown.

Lilacs, spireas, mockorange and other shrubs in bloom may be cut for decorative purposes. This oftentimes serves the double purpose of pruning the shrub and providing an indoor bouquet.

Prepare window boxes in May, seeing that adequate provision is made for drainage in the bottom.

Work into the soil plenty of barnyard manure, peat, moss and leaf mold as a guard against hot, dry weather.

Protect birds, toads, green snakes, turtles, ladybird beetles and other beneficial insects and animals.

Plan to make field trips for wild flower studies.

Make a special study of the uses and care of perennial plants. Emphasize those which are practical for home plantings.

Consider the life cycle of insects. Make a chart of those which are beneficial and those which are harmful in the garden.

Plant an experimental garden to show the effects of different fertilizers.

June Reminders

Pay strict attention to insect and disease control. Keep a good supply of insecticides on hand at all times. Rotenone is a very handy and useful one.

Visits to all home garden plots should be made during this month.

Keep in touch with the state department of agriculture and other trained leaders in solving technical garden problems.

Don't neglect garden photography and exhibits of garden pictures.

Be sure that a record is being kept of all produce harvested. Keeping monetary crop values increases interest in the project.

In February *Recreation* offered you some garden reminders for February, March, and April. Here are some suggestions for May, June and July.

By JOHN CAMPBELL
National Recreation Association

Conduct pilgrimages to nurseries, parks, garden centers.

Begin to cut flowers for bouquets and arrangements. Early morning is generally considered the best time to do this.

An abundance of weed, leaf and insect specimens should be available at this time for collections.

Stress thinning of plants where they have been seeded too heavily. This is the only way crops can properly mature.

Secure the cooperation of the local newspaper, local magazines, the radio and other publicity mediums to keep the garden project before the general public.

In July

As soon as early crops have been harvested, put on an application of fertilizer and plant late crops. Beets, spinach, swiss chard, turnips, lettuce, sweet corn, beans, Chinese cabbage, endive and carrots seeds may be used for this purpose. Also plants of cabbage, cauliflower and celery.

Keep blooms and seeds picked from all annuals so a constant supply of flowers is available during the growing season.

Cultivation is especially important during this month. It is well to keep a fine soil mulch on the garden at all times for best absorption of water to take place.

Irrigation may be necessary during extended dry spells. When watering, be sure to do a thorough job.

Prepare garden posters and scrapbooks.

Tall growing plants may be staked to keep the stems straight and strong.

Plan to go on hikes, cook-outs and other nature excursions.

Become acquainted with methods of preparing garden produce for market.

Enlist the help of older boys and girls in teaching the younger children.

Make leaf prints and plaster casts of interesting garden materials.

Nature Afield

NATURE LEADERS from several states will attend the 1941 training course of the Virginia Natural History Institute opening on June 23rd. This outdoor school will be held at the National Park Service's well-equipped camp on the Swift Creek Recreational Demonstration Area near Richmond, Virginia.

Initiated last year as a four week course, this year's program will be extended to six weeks. The first five weeks will be held at Swift Creek; the final week, optional with students, will be spent in a field trip to national and state parks in Virginia and adjoining states.

Only twenty-five students will be admitted to the course. A minimum of two years of college training is required. Previous training in group leadership and in natural science will be of advantage to the students. Preference will be given candidates best able to use the materials presented in educational and recreational work.

The outdoor program offered met last year with unanimous satisfaction from students. As one of the students wrote, "... we consider this experiment in living and learning together even more successful than we had anticipated. . . . In the great outdoor laboratory, rich in scientific materials, we observed and discovered many secrets of animal and plant life, secrets so fascinating and so full of meaning that I am sure we will go on searching and discovering more and more."

The course is sponsored by the National Park Service, the National Recreation Association, the Virginia State Conservation Commission, and the Richmond Professional Institute of the College of William and Mary. The Richmond Professional Institute will award five credit hours to students doing satisfactory work, at a cost of \$1.25 per credit hour.

Each day the students will go afield,* many of the lectures being given out-of-doors. On Saturdays, full-day trips to unusual natural and historic sites will be held. During the course a simple museum of local nature materials will be developed by the students, and work in crafts

The Virginia Natural History Institute announces it will hold its 1941 Nature Leaders Training Course at the Swift Creek Recreational Demonstration Area beginning June 23rd.

allied to nature will be offered. Students will become acquainted with techniques of presenting natural history to groups and with activities which may be used in nature recreation programs. First-hand experience in leader-

ship will be given, for students will have the opportunity of serving as nature leaders for children and adults visiting Swift Creek. Training in nature guiding and in planning of campfire programs form a valuable part of the course.

Living forms in their native habitats, rather than laboratory specimens, are studied. Field observation, rather than book knowledge, is stressed.

Reynold E. Carlson, Director of Nature Activities for the National Recreation Association, will again direct the program. Outstanding scientists and recreation leaders will be included on the faculty. Among them are:

Dr. Carl P. Russell, Supervisor, Branch of Research and Education, National Park Service

Dr. Arthur R. Bevan, Virginia State Geologist

Clifford C. Presnall, Assistant in Charge of Section on Wildlife, National Park Service

Dr. Robert F. Smart, Laboratory of Botany, University of Richmond

Ned J. Burns, Chief of Museum Division, National Park Service

D. E. McHenry, Naturalist, National Capitol Parks, Washington, D. C.

Fred H. Arnold, Regional Forester, National Park Service.

The cost of the five weeks' course at Swift Creek will be \$80.00. This amount will cover tuition, lodging, board, and all incidentals. Expenses for travel, lodging, and board for the field trip scheduled for the sixth week will be furnished at actual cost and should not exceed \$20.00 per student.

Applicants are urged to write immediately to the Virginia Natural History Institute, 907 Grace Securities Building, Richmond, Virginia, for application blanks.

The Institute initiated its training program last year to help meet the rapidly growing need among park and recreation agencies, organized camps and educational institutions for more leaders with field experience in the interpretation of the inspirational and spiritual values of nature.

WORLD AT PLAY

Camera Contest in New York City

THREE hundred and fifty photographs were submitted in the amateur photo contest conducted by the Department of Parks in New York City last September. All pictures depicted "Youth or Age" in the parks, pools, beaches or playgrounds under the jurisdiction of the Department. Winter or summer recreation pictures were permissible. Contestants were grouped into two divisions: Junior, children up to sixteen years of age, and Senior, adults seventeen years of age and over. Winning pictures were displayed at the Museum of Natural History in conjunction with the Department's annual handcraft exhibit of leather and chip work, soap carving, basketry, bead and metal work, loom weaving and hook rug construction.

The photograph, "Little Fisherman," used as the frontispiece on page 2 won second place in the Senior Division.

Giving the Men a Chance to Play

PLAY and recreation for the men of the city were among resolutions for 1941 made by the Recreation Department in Charlottesville, Virginia. Since there is no Y.M.C.A. or other facility available downtown, the recreation building will be turned over to business men every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 5:00 to 6:30 P. M. They may play badminton, ping-pong, volleyball, basketball, and table games. Various civic clubs are expected to organize athletic teams and make use of the hours available to them.

Water Works Plant Becomes a Park

A NINE-ACRE park and outdoor recreation area has been developed by WPA workers from the former property of the old Urban Water Supply Company in New York. An undemolished water works plant and fifty foot stack still stand in the northwest corner of the development overlooking a concrete stadium and football field convertible to softball and regulation baseball. A chain link fence separates this area from the unused building. Senior play swings, slides, a combination basketball court and ice skating rink, four

horseshoe pitching courts and six shuffleboard courts have been built in the southeastern part of the field, while the northeastern section is reserved for the preschool children.

\$1.10 Per Capita for Recreation

GREENWICH, Connecticut, has joined the ranks of cities spending \$1.00 or more per capita for a public recreation program. On November 12, 1940, when the budget of the Recreation Board was passed, it was increased from \$32,216 to \$38,815. The population of Greenwich, according to the 1940 census, is 35,285.

Night Lighting of Playgrounds

THE increased use of outdoor recreation facilities through the night lighting of playgrounds and fields has been made possible in several communities by Lions clubs. In Shippensburg, Pennsylvania, the club built a skating rink in a large main-street field and is now working on a lighting system. Lions of Valier, Illinois, recently completed illuminating the athletic field which can be used for both football and softball. A new chapter in Grandview, Washington, lighted the town athletic field at a cost of \$1,500 for their first big project. Lights have also been provided in the outdoor town club which Hot Springs, Montana, Lions built for the citizens and visitors of the town.


Community Club for "Old-Timers"

EL SEGUNDO, California, a community with a population of 3,503, operates an "Old-Timers' Club" at an expense of \$40 a month. The city rented a store building and supplied cards, cribbage and checker boards, chess games. The rooms were equipped with radio, desks, tables, and chairs which were donated by interested citizens.

Workers' Recreation in Oakland

TOTAL participation in the nineteen events sponsored by the Industrial Athletic Association of metropolitan Oakland was 3,874, with a total attendance of 94,067, according to the an-

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nual report of the Association which has been distributed to the seventy-four member firms. Basketball was the most popular as far as attendance was concerned with 27,291 watching the men's games and 9,600 the women's. More than 1,326 men and women played the game. Men's softball, the next popular sport, had a participation of 1,080 and an attendance of 25,000 persons. Lacrosse drew an attendance of 1,842 with 56 playing the game.

Adult Education and Defense—The American Association for Adult Education, with headquarters at 60 East 42nd Street, New York City, announces plans to relate the nation-wide adult education movement to the national defense program by increasing the number of community adult education councils which offer to serve as the educational arms of local defense committees, by promoting a series of regional conferences on adult education and defense, and by issuing publications relating to defense. The publications issued to date include *Defense Papers*, *Defense Digests*, and *Community Councils in Action*, all dealing with defense in its broadest sense—"the

defense of American culture." Further information may be secured from the American Association for Adult Education.

Sixth Annual Amateur Photo Contest—For the sixth season the Union County, New Jersey, Park Commission is holding its annual amateur photo contest open to all persons living in Union County. Rules of the contest required that all photographs be taken between January 1 and March 16. Awards are to be made in each one of the following classes: (A) scenes; (B) special park class—for best photos taken in the Union County Park System; (C) general—any activity, human interest, nature, portrait, still life, or other photos which cannot be properly classified under Class A or B. The prize winning prints, accompanied by a list showing the names of winners and the awards, will be exhibited at ten different public libraries throughout Union County.

Gains to Labor in Leisure—In *Productivity, Wages, and National Income*, Pamphlet No. 23, published by The Brookings Institution, Washington, D. C., the statement is made that in many cases labor's gains from productivity were merely in the form of leisure. "If these gains in leisure be reckoned in dollars at the hourly rates paid in the various industries, the *imputed* gains would amount to 1,086 millions in manufacturing, 150 millions in railroads, and 50 millions in the electric light and power industry. It is impossible to make such a calculation for mining because of inadequate data."

Coronado Celebrates on Wheels—More than 27,000 pounds of stage properties, costumes, and material are being transported over a 6,000-mile itinerary for presentations of "The Entrada of Coronado," fourteen act drama of the arrival of the Conquistadores in the Southwest 400 years ago. In each of eighteen towns throughout Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, and Colorado, new casts of 500 to 800 local persons are being trained for the show. This \$100,000 play-on-wheels is backed by the Federal Government.

Change in Price Noted—In the March issue of *RECREATION* the price of \$1.90 was quoted for *The Merry Skibook*, which was reviewed on page 757. Word has been received that the price of this book is \$1.00.



One treatment today

Good for a season's play!

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Church Recreation—"The Youth Recreational Situation in the Toledo Protestant Churches" is the subject of the thesis presented by James Donald McKinley in partial fulfillment of the requirements for his Degree of Master of Arts at the University of the City of Toledo. Mr. McKinley, who is Director of Activities at the Collingwood Avenue Presbyterian Church, states that his study of the work being done by the city's Protestant churches came about from the realization that the church is neglecting an important ally in its struggle to hold the young people in the church organization. He tells of a number of worthwhile programs but points out very frankly the failure of the churches as a whole to seize their opportunities. Findings and recommendations are offered which will be of particular interest at just this time.

Joseph Lee Fields in Canton, Ohio—Canton, Ohio, has named two play areas "Lee Field" in honor of Joseph Lee. One area is a three acre play field which has been developed by WPA, and the other is an athletic field containing two baseball diamonds and two softball diamonds.

Music's Good Neighborliness in the Americas

(Continued from page 10)

away or make us scornful, if not belligerent. Consider the emotional meaning that the word "foreigner" often has that is not mentioned in the dictionaries. The most vital need, then, in making our hopes come true, is for an expanding of the range of our sympathetic responsiveness. Fortunately, it can be expanded in each of us, and through music and dancing perhaps more readily than through other media. Whenever we have taken to ourselves a new song or dance fraught with real life that is different from any we have appropriated inwardly before, we shall be all the readier to respond to the next new song or dance

that is real and different, until we come positively to reaching out toward what is unique and genuine in music and in people, not turning away from it or even merely tolerating it, but seeking it and prizing it. Then we shall be well on the way toward real democracy in our own America and toward effectively friendly relationships with the peoples of the other Americas.

If it is true that the enjoyment and learning of any folk song or dance, of any other nationality new to us, is a step toward fuller and keener responsiveness to Latin-American music and dances, we have still another suggestion to add to those we have already made. Let any person or group interested in the purposes mentioned herein find out the dyed-in-the-wool folk singers and dancers in or near his community and help them to have there the influence that the Latin-American folk are having in Houston and Los Angeles. Even our own traditional songs, square dances and singing dances are a step toward the folk music and people of other countries. And by all means let him be a folk singer or dancer or both himself. Almost everybody, perhaps everybody, was born to be one, and it is never too late to start.

Playing for a Stronger America

(Continued from page 23)

Whitaker, Commissioner of Canadian National Parks, said at the National Recreation Congress, "Even the military can not make men out of weaklings, save at high cost, and it is far more economical to build up physically the young generation by providing outdoor interests and exercises."

It will not be long before such beliefs become widespread throughout the country. If the recreation movement rises to the occasion it will strengthen its position as one of the most vital and important forces in the building of a newer and better national life for all the generations to come.

A Fortieth Anniversary Program

(Continued from page 44)

EPISODE VI—1925. Sports reign. (Sports procession, athletic drill, and living statues.)

EPISODE VII—1929. Recreation for all. (Hallows'een parade and tennis drill.)

EPISODE VIII—1935. Grounds being beautified. (Flower dance.)

EPISODE IX—1940. A great playground band. (A concert was given.)

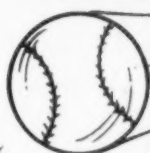
EPISODE X—Finale.

(Continued on page 52)

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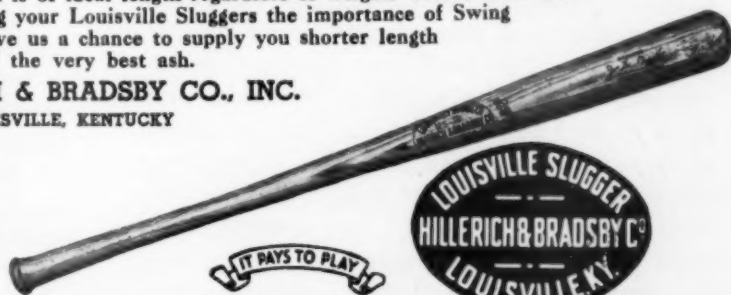
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The regular two-year program in social work, leading to the degree of Master of Science in Social Administration, opens on September 22nd for the academic year 1941-1942. Application should be made immediately to Professor ELIZABETH P. LYMAN, Director of Admissions.

A Fortieth Anniversary Program

(Continued from page 50)

The final event of the year was a fortieth anniversary banquet held in the largest hotel ballroom in the city. This particular affair was sponsored by the Playground Federation composed of thirty-two neighborhood parents' playground associations. Again, all pioneers were invited as well as city and school officials. The main address was given by the Honorable Paul N. Schaeffer, judge of the county courts and also judge of the juvenile court. Judge Schaeffer spoke on "What Recreation Means to Our City" and strongly advocated that the citizens support the existing Department of Public Recreation. Approximately two hundred mothers, fathers, and public officials crowded every nook and corner of the ballroom, and at the conclusion of the event decided to make the banquet an annual affair.

Newspapers were generous in giving valuable front page space and editorials to all anniversary events throughout the year. Readers of newspapers read the stories eagerly because the names of people who were responsible for the growth of the

Joseph Lee Memorial Contest For Recreation Literature

THE SOCIETY OF RECREATION WORKERS of America announces the second annual Joseph Lee Memorial Contest for Recreation Literature. The purpose of this contest is to encourage professional recreation workers to write, not so much on the philosophy of the movement as on the techniques of doing the work, and thus to enrich the body of scientific knowledge of the profession.

First Prize—Joseph Lee Memorial Plaque

Second Prize—Certificate of Merit

Third Prize—Certificate of Merit

The awards will be presented at the Society's annual meeting in October. Final selections will be made by a competent board of judges after preliminary judging by the Committee on Publications.

Rules of the Contest

1. All members in good standing in the Society of Recreation Workers of America are eligible to enter.
2. The closing date of the contest is May 15, 1941.
3. Papers are to be no more than 2,500 words.
4. Manuscripts must be typewritten on one side of paper only.
5. Manuscripts must be furnished in triplicate. (This is to expedite and facilitate judging.)
6. Each manuscript must bear the name, address, position, and organization of the writer in the upper left-hand corner of the first page.
7. No manuscript will be returned unless accompanied by return cover and sufficient postage.
8. The privilege is reserved by the Society of Recreation Workers of America to publish any manuscripts submitted.
9. Address all manuscripts to Wayne C. Sommer, Chairman, Committee on Publications, Y.M.C.A., Reading, Pennsylvania.

playground and recreation program over a period of four decades were known to them.

The development of Reading's recreation program from private playgrounds to a tax-supported municipal, year-round recreation system may truly be attributed to the people of the city. This is democracy in action!

A Children's May Carnival

(Continued from page 15)

carnival. It should be as nearly perfect as planning and practice can make it. Several groups

Time Out for Living

"Capacity for recreation and the impulse to play are inborn in every human being, but they can attain only a rudimentary expression until the skills and arts of recreation are acquired. — *Recreation*, October, 1941.

AUTHORS

E. DE ALTON PARTRIDGE
*Assistant Professor of
Education, New Jersey
State Teachers College*

and

CATHERINE MOONEY
*Vice-Principal
Wilson Junior High School
Passaic, N. J.*

662 pages List price \$2.00

THIS INTRIGUING title introduces a new, fascinating book for young people of high school age. It is brimful of stimulating, practical suggestions about the worthwhile use of leisure time.

Here is a wide range of hobbies for boys and girls which offers many an inviting choice. They can be undertaken and carried on at little or no expense. Many of them will become a lifelong pleasure. Among these leisure-time pursuits are hiking and camping, photography, amateur astronomy, leathercraft, marionettes, bird study, amateur social service, archery, music appreciation, etc., etc.

The richness of illustration, the friendly spirit and humor, the variety of interests, and the inviting, conversational style make *Time Out for Living* an inspirational guide for any group of young people.

AMERICAN BOOK COMPANY

NEW YORK CINCINNATI CHICAGO BOSTON ATLANTA DALLAS SAN FRANCISCO

should be taught the dance together with the promise that the best dancers may participate in the carnival. This makes the actual performance the achievement of a well-earned goal.

Other types of dancing may augment the program. Tap or novelty dances can be used between the regular acts.

Funny Men. These performers are different from the clowns. They may represent Irish, Scotch, or Negro comics, but these actors must be fairly expert in their roles. Musicians may be dressed as different characters, if desired.

If the amount of talent does not seem to fill the need, a short amateur skit or playlet may be just the thing to add. Dramatic dances, poetic or musical skits may be included, but they should be short. The crowd is carnival-minded and anything that lags will bore them.

The show itself should not be over an hour long, the Maypole dance excluded. And it is best to have the show absolutely free of charge.

Dancing

Social dancing may be planned for the carnival if a good floor, free of other activity, can be procured on the grounds. Old-fashioned or modern

dances may be conducted with a small fee for a set or dance. If the carnival committee cannot produce a show, dancing may be the answer for the free attraction of the evening, with the Maypole dance as the main event.

In this district it has been found unadvisable to mix the old-fashioned and the modern, and the preference is for the old-fashioned dances at a May carnival.

Financing

If recreation is the first consideration of the carnival, financing is second. The financial backing should be guaranteed before final plans take form. Should this arrangement be impossible, each group might stand back of its own expenses. If there are enough separate groups, a prize might be offered for the most attractive booth or the best performance.

Charge should be made according to the financial aim of the carnival, made known among those who may attend. In spite of the good will of the people, however, they are not going to attend a carnival—even though they supplied all of the cakes!—if there is no worth-while recreation for them to enjoy.

(Continued on page 58)

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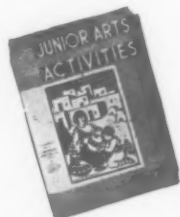
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A School Becomes a Recreation Center

BOARDMAN RECREATION CENTER, the most recent addition to the municipal recreation facilities of Cambridge, Massachusetts, was formally dedicated on Friday evening, January 17, 1941. After a brief program of addresses by officials of the Park and Library Departments, the building was open to the general public for inspection. Activities at the new center were inaugurated on Monday, January 20th.

Boardman Center is under the control of the Park Department, and the program is being administered through the Recreation Division of the Department of which Stephen H. Mahoney is Superintendent. The upper floor is a combined auditorium and gymnasium. The main floor has a foyer, two large club recreation rooms, and a branch public library. In the basement are locker rooms, shower baths, toilets, a workshop, and the heating plant.

The building is directly opposite the Federal Housing Project known as Newtowne Court. It was formerly the Boardman School and had been abandoned for school purposes some years ago. Realizing its possibilities for use as a recreation center, the Park Department officials secured a WPA project to reconstruct and renovate the structure. During a period of nearly two years extensive work was carried on to transform the building for its new use. The basement was lowered, the walls braced, the roof trussed, partitions were removed and new stairways, walls, doors, and windows were installed. The heating, plumbing, and electrical systems are completely new and modern. Visitors who recall the former condition of the building are greatly impressed by the transformation.

Three full-time recreation workers have been assigned to the center by Stephen H. Mahoney, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation, and a number of part-time workers are in charge of special groups. In the period during which the program has been in operation, the wisdom of the municipal recreation department in providing this section of the city with facilities for indoor recreation has been apparent.

Clubs for boys, girls, men and women have been organized, and present activities include gymnasium classes, handcraft, music, dramatics, and social dancing. The groups represented comprise all ages from small children to adults.

Building the Morale of Our Armed Forces

(Continued from page 43)

needed to some degree for civilians where otherwise the absence of medical care might lead to epidemics.

Some families, both of construction workers and of other civilians looking for jobs or expecting to serve the needs of the camps are going to be stranded. To let those families go hungry has its repercussions on the community and therefore on the camp.

Problems of Commercialized Vice

One of the best advertised problems has to do with the importation of prostitutes by commercial interests and the spread of venereal disease. The position of the Army and Navy and of my agency is clear and unequivocal. There is just one thing to do with prostitution and that is to suppress it. That may not mean that it can be entirely stamped out, but I believe that we can set up procedures whereby the commanding officers receive the fullest cooperation from local law enforcement officials supplemented by state officials, so that it is reduced to a minimum.

The experience of the last war and of many situations since that time has demonstrated that this is the only way in which the medical problem can be handled. We can rely on the moral forces within the camps and in the communities outside to play their fullest part in this program.

I am expecting to get the best man available in the country for my staff to direct this approach.

A hearing is being held tomorrow on the May bill which will make commercialized vice a federal offense outside the camp in the area fixed by the Secretary of War and the Secretary of Navy. A similar statute was used only four times in the last war, and we hope that this one, when it is passed by Congress, will be required no more frequently. We want local communities to do the job, but we are going to insist that the job be done.

Voluntary Service Bureaus

We look forward to the organization in all of these defense areas of voluntary service bureaus under whatever plan the President may eventually determine where all volunteers may be registered,

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trained, if necessary, and related to local activities where they will be most effective. Such a bureau should also stimulate the use of volunteers by existing organizations.

Thus, all working together, we should be able to maintain for soldier and civilian in defense a well-rounded normal life. That in itself will help to clarify and establish our American ideal—one nation indivisible, whose service is perfect freedom, which fights for justice for all.

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Wild Flower Preserve Created

HISTORIC BOWMAN'S HILL in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, is now a living museum of wild flowers, a perpetual memorial to its Revolutionary fame. A small observation tower, erected many years ago on the site of the hill where Washington's men kept a sharp lookout while waiting the opportunity to cross the Delaware, was the only landmark to commemorate the spot until WPA created the wild flower preserve where more than thirty thousand of the plants and flowers native to Pennsylvania are now to be found. In 1935 the WPA cleared and improved the grounds, cut trails through the heavily wooded land, graded land for pools and marshy areas for the wild plant life that can grow only in such places, and did the work necessary to make the park accessible to nature students. Some 300 species of plants, flowers, and native Pennsylvania trees were already found growing there. On a second project a botanical unit of WPA workers identified and classified between 50,000 and 60,000 plant and flower specimens collected for the preserve.

After five years of development the preserve is flourishing. Trails are studded with flowers. The artificially created bogs and swamps have their orchids, the pools their lilies. Spring, summer, and fall find blooming there a succession of types of wild flowers and plants.

Ensuring Safety in the Use of Playground Facilities

(Continued from page 31)

- Safety clubs
- Safety patrols
- Posters
- Articles in playground newspapers
- Safety plays and dramatizations
- Storytelling periods stressing familiar accidents
- Bulletin board notices
- Safety films, slides, and pictures

A Legacy from the World's Fair!

THE FIRST RECREATIONAL UNIT in Flushing Meadow Park, the site of the New York World's Fair, is a combination ice skating rink and roller skating rink which was opened to the people of New York City within about three months of the closing of the World's Fair. These rinks are in the City of New York Building on the former Fair ground—one of the few Fair buildings which were planned to be permanent. At the end of the first week the Park Department officials announced that 16,537 skaters had already used the rinks.

The ice skating rink is 168 feet long and 120 feet wide. Brine piping, the chief element in the freezing process, was laid beneath the concrete floor of the City of New York Building when it was constructed for the Fair two years ago. The room temperature is kept at 52 degrees and the temperature of the brine pipes lowered to 18 degrees. The floor is then flooded and freezing immediately sets in. The ice is from 1½ to 1¾ inches thick and this section of the rink will be equipped with an ice planer hitched up to a tractor which will shave the surface down periodically for conditioning.

The roller skating rink is 150 feet long and 120 feet wide. The floor for this rink is of hard maple laid over the concrete.

The double rink has diffused lighting, a public address system, and music provided by radio and phonograph.

The Department of Parks has scheduled two skating sessions for every day, including Sunday, the first from 1:30 to 5:30 P. M., and the second from 7:30 to 11 P. M. Admission in the afternoon is 20 cents and in the evening 35 cents. Children under fourteen are admitted free on Saturdays from 10 o'clock until noon.

Patrons may rent both types of skates at the rink. There is a cafeteria on the second floor of the building which will be open continuously and on the main floor a concessionaire will sell hamburgers, hot dogs, and soft drinks.

Contests—posters, essays

Talks by director, traffic officers, and other officials

Constant vigilance and attention to the safety precautions offered can do much toward supporting the belief that fifty per cent of all accidents are preventable.


Another Fair Is Coming

WHY, HEDGED about with comforts and diversions, are New Yorkers still homesick for the Fair? What makes the gap it left in metropolitan life? Our markets are a treasury of health, offering citizens every day in the year the strength of earth and sun. Some hold that safe, abundant water is the town's chief blessing, while many naturally put first its thousand stimuli to culture. What all agree upon is that there never was such a place for entertainment, every day and almost every hour. Those who prefer not to think are seldom obliged to do so; there's always a show to prevent it. And if constant, accessible amusement could do away with loneliness and dullness we should be the most gleeful and sunny-hearted set on earth. But where on the island is diversion with sociability? That's what the World's Fair brought, in a plentitude unknown since days when Manhattan was a little Dutch burg.


Now that its happy-go-lucky delights are dust, and going out once more means sitting in a big dark room or in the presence of food, it is clear that New York's literally crying need is a kermesse, a verbena, a talky general store or some kind of fair to which the whole neighborhood goes for a change, a sip, an unprogrammed breath.

Our climate smiles upon verbenas (an outdoor evening of strolling, flirting and refreshment, rather like a strawberry sociable) for only a few months of the year, and, of course, the store, with free dried apples, a curled cat and box seats is too much to hope for just yet. But they do say a county fair is coming to animate the Garden in September. This is a sign that Manhattan's yearning for sociability and ambulating evenings out has been observed by great powers which in time will find a way to satisfy it. They took note of rebudding folkways at the Fair, such as the crocheting bee — almost a quilting party. Something descended from a picnic at the old chestnut grove is ahead; somewhere we New Yorkers shall meet, shall "promenade ourselves." Perhaps, starting in June, the order could be: strawberry sociable, peach festival, county fair, corn husking, apple drying, Hallowe'en, and after the major holidays have been spent *en famille*, as usual, a civic snow fight, singing school and egg hunt. There is a bright promise of all these joys in the very name of the American Institute of the City of New York which is sponsoring the first local county fair of the century. If pre-eminent pumpkins and

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stoneboat pulls are coming, then lost sociability, too, can return to town. Fair ahead.—Reprinted by permission from the *New York Herald Tribune*, February 16, 1941.

Of "Singing America"

(Continued from page 32)

joyousness and love of nature and of neighbors that are typical of the Polish spirit; *Walking Song*—a favorite among the "Wandervögel" and other hiking youth of Germany as well as among the Swiss; *Spring*—known and loved by Swedish people everywhere; *At Sunset*—heard among Finnish people in Minnesota and in New York.

These records, made by the RCA Manufacturing Company, Inc., Camden, New Jersey, are available at 50 cents each. The four records, in an attractive album with a leaflet of explanatory notes, may be secured at \$2.50. The records may be ordered through the National Recreation Association.

The RCA Manufacturing Company, Inc., will

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broadcast the records on its program of April 22nd, which is listed as the "Music You Want When You Want It" program. The program as a rule is scheduled for 10:30 or 11:00 o'clock in the evening.

It's Being Done in Nature Recreation

(Continued from page 42)

"Science Congress." The American Institute, 60 East 42nd St., New York, 34 pp. \$.25. Definite directions for planning a congress. Illustrated.

"The Science Counselor" is the title of an attractive quarterly journal for teachers of science in the Catholic High Schools, Duquesne University Press, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Town Forests. Pennsylvania has recently created the Community Forest Council for the advancement of town forests. Fifteen hundred towns, cities and counties now own more than three million acres. The Massachusetts Forest and Park Association initiated the movement in the United States in 1914.

Wildlife. "Feeding Wildlife in Winter." Farmers Bulletin 1783, Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C. Five cents.

Zinc. "The Zinc Industry," a thirty-two page pamphlet, free, from the American Zinc Institute, 60 East 42nd Street, New York. This is an interesting story giving history, uses and production.

A Children's May Carnival

(Continued from page 53)

For the strictly recreational carnival there are two ways of financing. First, a nominal charge—an entrance fee—may be made to defray expenses. Second, there may be enough monies in the treasury of the recreation committee to finance the

What One Girl Likes



"I LOVE LIFE so I want to live' has been my motto through the present seventeen-year period," quoth Joanna Jackson. "My vital statistics include birth on March 26, 1923, and graduation from Charlestown High School in January, 1940, with highest scholastic ranking, for which I received a gold medal as an award by the local chapter of Phi Beta Kappa and the subsequent title of 'General Jackson.' In High School I was a member of the National Honor Society, of Quill and Scroll, of the dramatic and glee clubs, of the staff of the school paper, and of the student paper. I like chemistry in concentrated form, but I plan to major in voice and study next fall either at Oberlin or Miami University, with Juilliard Conservatory as my ultimate goal. I like collecting miniature glass animals, singing, of course, tennis, ping-pong, ice skating, swimming, walking in the rain, writing, reading, playing the piano, organ, violin, and accordion, eating chocolate eclairs, and talking." From *Student Life*, October, 1940.

carnival as a seasonal dramatic production. Blessed are those who rise to this occasion!

In all, the May carnival should typify May in all her glory and gaiety. Garlands of roses, artificial or real, and other May flowers should be used in profusion. And, most important, everybody should have a memorable time—at a minimum of financial expense and headaches for the hard-working committee.

Saving the Boys' Club

WHEN THE BUILDING that the Hamtramck, Michigan, Boys' Club was using was to be sold, the club was confronted with the prospect of disbanding unless new quarters could be found. An appeal went out for help and a warm response came from an unusual source—from the convicts at the state prison at Jackson. The prison paper carried an editorial from which the following statement is quoted:

"The inability of the club to provide a meeting place for these boys will throw them onto the street corners, into beer gardens, pool rooms and into places where you wouldn't want your kid brother to be. Each of you men in this prison today knows what a dirty and ugly place prison is. Each of you men knows that a prison does things to a man which no amount of later freedom can erase. And each of you has at one time or another, for for one reason or another, regretted the things which turned your feet unto paths that led to the cell you occupy. No one understands prison degradations better than you men in the cells, and no one, underneath the bitterness, sympathizes more with the lot of his fellow men than do you who wear numbers on your shirts."

These convicts know that somewhere back in their early lives something happened that led by a roundabout way to the cell door. They realized more than anyone else that some good influence along that road might have made them choose a different way, so that prisoners at Jackson went to the rescue of the Hamtramck kids. They staged a highly successful benefit boxing show and fund-raising campaign, and today the Hamtramck Boys' Club is going stronger than ever. From *Youth Leaders Digest*, December 1940.

Adventuring in Folkways

(Continued from page 19)

of American folk expression which has been kept alive in their hearts because they live in a country where they can think as they like about religion, education, recreation and choose their own vocation in life. They have brought with them from their native homelands those traditions closest to their daily life, and which have become increasingly dear to them today, since for some there no longer exists that homeland!

The Folk Festival Association has done much

THE Second Edition of our "GOOD MORNING" manual on early American dancing should be in the library of every teacher and student of physical training, recreation director, community leader, club and summer camp.

The book, with reinforced binding permitting the pages to lie flat when opened, is 7 by 10½ inches and contains music and descriptions of 41 dances now being taught in universities, colleges and public schools throughout America. It includes authentic quadrille music, waltz quadrilles, Lancers, minuet, contra and couple dances, diagrams, and 17 singing calls, the words of which fit the movements of the dance.

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Our first edition of "Good Morning," a textbook on early American dancing, is still available and contains information not included in the second volume. Prices on this edition are the same as those quoted for the second book. In ordering, please mention whether the first or second edition is desired.

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in its eight years' existence to awaken people to the fact that within our country is a vast storehouse of native talent, the heritage of a pioneering people. If the traditional expressions existing in the United States had no roots in the past, no possibility in the future, the joy that comes through their use today would be sufficient reason for the national and community festivals. Some of these people never before realized that others would receive their expression sympathetically and have therefore not worked at preserving it. Now they are proud to offer their songs, dances and stories, not for any material gain themselves but because they love the things these traditions stand for and

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they believe keeping them alive will enrich a country in which they have been permitted to be free! There is not a state which does not hold within its borders some folk art. All that is needed is a leader with a vision and the ability and knowledge to recognize the authentic expression. Recreation directors should be on the alert for this talent, or should find someone in their community who knows about traditional expressions. Presentation of folk culture makes for better understanding among racial groups in a community. An intelligent use of these traditional songs, dances, and stories goes far in making possible a richer cultural life.

From the South comes the Negro with his melodious spirituals. The West is rich in its cowboy ballads and the religious Indian ceremonials. The Northwest has its lumberjacks with their typical evenings in a bunk house, and the rural folk their square dances. The coast towns send their old sailors to sing again their chanties, and from the cities come foreign groups in colorful costumes of their native lands to perform dances. All these combine to form a lovely pattern of simple everyday philosophy uncomplicated by the rush and bustle of a busy world.

From the humorous mountain ditty to the great religious music each person attending the eighth annual festival will gain inspiration, and all will go back to their communities to encourage their own people in keeping alive the fine old traditions that in some places are all too soon allowed to die out or are being replaced with mediocre amusements.

Playlots at \$50 Each

(Continued from page 13)

was a disappointment to the playlot neighborhoods. There were several good reasons for this limitation:

By eliminating swings, slides, etc., we were able to get the exceedingly low insurance rate.

We had set a \$50 contribution limit. It was felt that we could secure more donors at \$50 than if we asked for \$75 or \$100. We also had in mind that poorer neighborhoods would be encouraged to "pass the hat" and collect that amount. This proved to be a correct assumption, for several neighborhoods did just that.

We hoped that the neighbors would be so disappointed that they would do something to improve their play area and make it their own project.

We received a good many telephone calls, and during the initial stages we were not sure that the psychology of discontent would give us the desired results. But the second phase, that of doing something for themselves, was a joy to behold! All manner of schemes to raise funds were developed. Fathers and older brothers pitched in and worked every night and holidays. Swings, slides, wading pools, fences, flower gardens, shrubbery, shelters, were added. On each inspection trip of the playlots the youngsters, as well as the committeemen, showed with delightful pride the improvements that had been made since the last trip. It was their playlot. You can depend upon it, there was no vandalism.

We were informed that improvements on these playlots cost from \$85.00 up to as much as \$2,000. This was community enterprise at its best. For years many of these same communities had besieged City Council for playgrounds. Their street accidents and fatalities had taken a yearly toll. It had seemed to them a hopeless situation, something that they had to put up with. Then one morning they read the *Inquirer*, which stated that

a playground could be had for \$50. All that they had to do was to ask for one or raise the money themselves. "Why haven't we thought of using the nearby vacant lots as a playground instead of a dump?" "Let's get busy, neighbors, and save our children, get them off the dangerous streets," were typical of neighborhood reactions. Here was hope; here was a plan and here were organizations to help them put it through, to make it a reality. After all these years they could have playgrounds where none had existed. The neighbors got busy and kept busy all summer, and not the least of the satisfactory results achieved was the record of only one serious accident, though the season's attendance mounted to 229,065 boys and girls.

Playlot Federation

On the evening of March 10th, local committees formed the Philadelphia Playlot Federation. Plans for the coming season were made and a sense of permanency was prevalent. One had the feeling that these citizens will continue their efforts to provide play facilities for their communities until they have demonstrated the very real need for the city to take over and make provision for a permanent standard playground service. Who knows but that these temporary playlots may be the beginning of a new method of expanding play service by the municipality?

A Literature "Shower" for Service Men

(Continued from page 27)

libraries, clubs, and outlying collection centers. Posters made by NYA were used in the schools. Two radio broadcasts and generous space in the press acquainted the public with the campaign. Paramount News took many scenes which were shown not only in Philadelphia, but elsewhere in the nation. A *Life* magazine photographer was also assigned.

There can be no doubt this campaign served several purposes: It is giving the soldiers and sailors wholesome pleasure during their leisure, when it is not always easy to know what to do; it is helping their morale; it is giving the children and citizens of our city an opportunity to do something for the men in uniform, and it is pointing the way to more extensive community enterprises in the National Defense Program.

Such a campaign is easy to organize and the press will give generous support since it does not involve a financial campaign and at the present moment is considered "news."

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when you provide them with
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Write today for descriptive bulletins; our engineering department will gladly aid you with your seating problems.

UNIVERSAL BLEACHER CO.

CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

Ninety Minutes a Week?

(Continued from page 20)

the athletic programs are carried out. Of course the winter season limits our activities and has created several problems. During the spring and summer, midshipmen will be able to exercise in Chicago's public parks, and summer sports will be in order.

The Program

The athletic program consists of the activities for which facilities are available, and men are enrolled for handball, squash, boxing, wrestling, weight lifting, fencing, basketball, touch football, bowling, table tennis, swimming, and ice skating. By grouping the midshipmen in sections, all of these activities can be conveniently carried out with a minimum of confusion.

For a time we experimented with active low organized games, but found them impracticable because of space limitations. Through the plan followed we have been able to give all the midshipmen their choice of activities with only a slight increase in the work of organization. This has aroused enthusiasm and has been the source of

much satisfaction. With men from all sections of the United States it has been interesting to observe that all enjoy and do well in the same activities. The only noticeable difference has been the interest displayed by men from the South in ice skating.

Considerable enthusiasm has been developed through tournament play. The Midshipmen's School is a regiment consisting of two battalions. There are three companies in one battalion and four in the other, with approximately one hundred and thirty men to the company. The companies are divided into two platoons, and these in turn are divided into four squads. We have organized inter-platoon and company competition in all of the athletic activities. Midshipmen are appointed as captains of each sport, and are made responsible for carrying out each one.

Extracurricular activities such as a school publication, year book, or weekly social affairs organized by the midshipmen have been discouraged because of the intensity of the curricular program. In addition to the athletic phases of our program, however, there are a number of activities which the midshipmen can engage in during their leisure hours. Tournaments in chess and checkers and table tennis have been organized. The early evening hours from chow to study period on Tuesday and Thursday are spent in group singing. Old sea chanteys, camping songs, and popular pieces are always in the song leader's repertoire. This group singing is proving very beneficial in acquainting midshipmen with their classmates, and it is an excellent preliminary to an evening of hard study.

Our location is fortunate with respect to radio broadcasting studios. During liberty hours each week a limited number of midshipmen can be accommodated at radio programs at WGN, WLS, WMAQ, and WBBM. The Chicago Planetarium, the Art Institute, the Field Museum, and other public buildings have been a continual source of recreation.

Churches of all denominations have been very helpful in offering their facilities for social use. In keeping with Navy tradition, the midshipmen have no trouble in getting acquainted with the fairer sex through social activities sponsored by the churches, clubs, and Northwestern University.

At the close of the three months' term the midshipmen hold a dinner dance in one of Chicago's fashionable hotels, and several days later they

receive their coveted Ensign's commissions in the Naval Reserve.

It has often been said that a business which can start and prosper in times of depression is assured of success. We feel that this applies as well to our recreation program. We have gotten underway in the most difficult season of the year. Our programs have been limited entirely to indoor activities. With the coming of spring and the opportunity to take advantage of outdoor facilities as well as those already mentioned, the midshipmen will have increasing ways of spending their leisure in a wholesome way.

Radio and the Farm Home

(Continued from page 40)

Chicago Round Table: Sunday, N.B.C.

The World Is Yours, Smithsonian Institute: Sunday, N.B.C.

Local papers and radio guides list the hours of these and other programs for any section of the country. Bulletins and other program material can be secured from the offices of the National Chains in New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles, from state colleges of agriculture, the United States Department of Agriculture, and the Radio Institute of the Audible Arts, 80 Broadway, New York City.

A good five or six tube table model of any standard make is best. Many fine programs are available over short wave, and the absence of advertising comes as a welcome relief to those who protest against commercialization. In most sections, such a table model as suggested will bring in stations from two hundred to four hundred miles away in the daytime, and up to 2,000 miles and more at night. Sets should be turned down to the lowest possible volume consistent with satisfactory listening, for loud tuning adds materially to nervous strain and does not give the best reception. New models eliminate the outside wires so that they can be used anywhere in and about the house; the latest portable radios are proving very satisfactory, as are the combination battery and plug-in sets. The kitchen is an excellent room for a radio in farm houses. In warmer weather in New England, the radio can be placed on the "back porch"; in the middle west, on the "veranda"; in the southwest and on the Pacific coast, in the "patio"; but whatever the place, radio can be a great source of education, entertainment, recreation, and fun for all members of the family.

New Publications in the Leisure Time Field

The Design and Development of Picnic Grounds

By Laurie Davidson Cox. Bulletin No. 21. New York State College of Forestry, Syracuse University, Syracuse. \$.85.

FOR MANY YEARS Mr. Cox watched the development of picnic use in park and forest areas, and has personally experimented with the development of such a form of recreational use. The almost universal ugliness of picnic grounds and the steady destruction of scenic values in areas used for picnic purposes impressed him strongly as among the most unfortunate conditions with which modern park designers and administrators have to cope. Mr. Cox's booklet deals with the designing of picnic areas, and he includes a number of plans for designed areas. In Part II he takes up the question of picnic ground details and gives plans for tables, benches, ovens and fireplaces, and picnic shelters. The booklet is one which recreation workers will find exceedingly valuable.

Party Fun

Compiled by Helen Stevens Fisher. Associated Authors, 222 West Adams Street, Chicago, Illinois. \$1.35. Plus five cents shipping charge.

A BOOK OF GAMES collected from all parts of the world, this little volume contains quiet and active games, pencil and paper games, questions and answers, car fun, travel games, and stunts. There are separate chapters on Games for Special Occasions and Games for Each Month in the Year, together with a section on Simple Rules for Successful Parties.

The Complete Ski Guide

Compiled and edited by Frank Elkins. Doubleday, Doran and Company, Inc., New York. \$2.50.

IT HAS NOT BEEN so long since skiing in America was done on barrel staves in back lots. Now clubs and trails exist by the thousands. The sport has grown into a thirty-five million dollar industry, and the followers of this new recreation number three million. The material presented in this book ranges from a discussion of the Arlberg technique to the latest songs heard on ski trains. It tells where to ski in America and Canada, the rules and penalties, the records which have been set, the officers of the various associations and clubs, and the terms in common usage among skiers.

Soap Carving—Cinderella of Sculpture

By Lester Gaba. The Studio Publications Inc., New York. \$1.00.

PUBLISHED IN COOPERATION with the National Soap Sculpture Committee, this profusely illustrated book gives detailed information on the various steps involved in carving with soap, the tools necessary, and the technical procedures.

Time Out for Living

By E. De Alton Partridge and Catherine Mooney. American Book Company, New York. \$2.00.

THE MODERN PROGRESSIVE SCHOOL is beginning to train youth to make good use of their leisure and to encourage them to cultivate hobbies which will hold over into later years.

Time Out for Living has been prepared to help schools in this vitally important process of training for the use of leisure. It presents essential recreational opportunities and a wide range of hobbies from hiking and camping to movie appreciation. The content of the book is rich in its relation to traditional school subjects—history, science, civics, health education, and English. It has much to offer in the field of creative writing. Written in an informal, conversational style and profusely illustrated, the book supplies teachers with the concrete material needed. Hundreds of practical projects touching many fields are provided, and there are selective bibliographies on each subject and practical information relating to hiking clubs, state recreation agencies, and hiking facilities in national parks. Although *Time Out for Living* is especially designed for high schools, it is well adapted for use with many other groups of young people.

Puppetry - Manual

Recreation Project, Work Projects Administration for the City of New York. 107 Washington Street, New York.

THIS MIMEOGRAPHED HANDBOOK contains detailed instructions for the teaching of the basic course in simplified puppetry as developed and used at the Puppet Division of the Recreation Training School, Recreation Project, WPA, for the City of New York. Profusely illustrated, with directions clearly given, it should prove exceedingly valuable for any play leader interested in developing puppetry. Through the courtesy of the Recreation Project, anyone desiring a copy of this handbook may secure it while the supply lasts by sending a request on official paper to the Recreation Project, WPA.

Games and Stunts for Two or More

By Jane Maxwell. Reader Mail, Inc., 635 Sixth Avenue, New York. \$.10.

HERE ARE QUIET and active games, baffling stunts, and magic which the family or a small group can enjoy.

Dance—A Creative Art Experience

By Margaret N. H'Doubler. F. S. Crofts and Company, New York. \$2.50.

THIS BOOK IS A DISCUSSION of the basic aspects and enduring qualities of dance, which are within the reach of everyone. It is designed to show that dance is available to all if they desire it and that it is an activity in which some degree of enjoyment and esthetic satisfaction

for all may be found. The book should do much to integrate all the dance forms into their proper places as seen in the perspective of a complete and unified philosophy of that art.

**How to Play Winning Softball.
With Official Rules.**

By Leo H. Fischer. Prentice-Hall, Inc., New York. \$1.95.

A book packed full of information designed to help all players improve their game and to help coaches train their teams and umpires to officiate properly. Techniques and rules are discussed, and there are chapters devoted to umpiring and lighting for night play. The book is illustrated with action photographs and diagrams. At the end there is an appendix of complete official softball rules.

A Book of Garden Flowers.

By Margaret McKenny. The Macmillan Company, New York. \$2.00.

Daffodils, forget-me-nots, pansies, Canterbury bells, larkspur, snapdragons, and many other old favorites march in gay procession in this book. Miss McKenny tells in a delightful way the story of the origin of these flowers and how they came to this country. Beautiful colored illustrations by Edith F. Johnston add to the charm of the book.

Municipal Recreation Administration.

Institute for Training in Municipal Administration, Chicago, Illinois. \$25.00.

This volume has been prepared for use in connection with a correspondence course administered by the Institute for Training in Municipal Administration. It is the latest of a series of courses in municipal government including such fields as Personnel, Planning, Finance, Fire, Public Works, Police, Welfare, and General City Government. Like the other courses in the series, Municipal Recreation Administration is designed for use primarily as a means of affording in-service training for city administrators, for city managers, mayors, department and bureau heads, and others wishing to prepare for administrative posts in city government.

Among the important administrative problems covered in this course are organization, personnel administration, the operation of areas and facilities, financial support and control, records, reports, and research, public relations, and program planning. The course, prepared with the assistance of the National Recreation Association, is designed to be practically useful to the student and is conducted in such a way as to help a local official to meet the problems of the particular job in which he is employed. A copy of the volume, which serves as a basic text for the course, is available only to enrolled students.

A folder describing the course in Municipal Recreation Administration and the others offered by the Institute is available on request from the Institute at 1313 East 60th Street, Chicago.

Modern Wilderness.

By William Arthur Babson. Doubleday, Doran and Company, Inc., New York. \$3.00.

There are residents of New Jersey who will be amazed to read of the wildlife sanctuary which exists within a few miles of New York City—a strip of swamp and woodland bordered by highways over which motor cars pass in ceaseless procession. In this retreat, hidden from view only by the natural growth of trees and plants, Mr. Babson has observed the nightly peregrinations of many animals and has discovered the secrets and habits of the locality's many forms of wildlife. In spring he has seen thousands of ducks stop in this refuge on their northward migration.

Mr. Babson writes of all these things with a charm and a feeling for the wonders of nature which make this an unusually delightful book.

Cowboy Dance Tunes.

Arranged by Frederick Knorr. The Caxton Printers, Ltd., Caldwell, Idaho. \$.75.

In connection with Lloyd Shaw's book, *Cowboy Dances*, an accompaniment book has been prepared with music arranged by Frederick Knorr, a cellist in the Denver Symphony, who for a number of years has played with Mr. Shaw's dance groups in some of their engagements. This booklet will be very valuable for groups using Mr. Shaw's book.

Safety Education in the Rural School.

Education Division, National Safety Council, Inc., 20 North Wacker Drive, Chicago. \$.35.

Although the accident problem is most obvious in the heavily populated centers, it is important also in the most sparsely settled sections. According to mortality statistics for 1936 published by the Census Bureau, each year nearly 40,000 accidental deaths from all causes occur in rural areas. The material offered in this booklet is intended for the use of teachers and presents subject matter for safety lessons.

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